IN THE TABLOID MOTHER SIMEON,

IN THE TABLOID **BRIDGET JONES:** UNDRESSED FOR SUCCESS



COMMENT p15



INSIDE THE TABLOID OF OFFICE. LEGAL AND **BANKING APPOINTMENTS**

Murder of the King of Glitz

Phil Davison and Tamsin Blanchard

Italian fashion designer Gianni Ver-sace, the "king of glitz" whose flamboyant styles are worn by the world's wealthiest and most glamorous stars, was shot dead on the steps of his oceanfront Miami Beach mansion yesterday morning by a young gun-man firing at point-hlank range.

Despite its reputation for violence, Miami went into a state of shock on hearing that Versace, 50, had been gunned down amid passing roller-bladers and sun-worshippers in the city's renowned Ocean Drive art deco

Witnesses described the gunman as a white man, in his mid-20s, dressed in a white shirt and grey shorts and having a backpack, who walked away after shooting the designer twice in the back of the head,

Raising the theory that the worldrenowned couturier could have been a victim of organised crime or that the shooting was drug-related, Mi-ami Police Chief Richard Barreto said: "I believe that be was targeted... This was not a random act of violence,"

News of Versace's death shocked the fashion world, as the story spread from Miami to New York to Milan, Paris and London, Nobody could quite believe that the man who only last Sunday unveiled his antumn-winter couture collection would no longer be doing fittings for his jetset clients, would not be dressing Madonna or Elton John ever again.

That collection, held before the world's press and buyers as well as Hollywood celebrities Demi Moore, Gabriel Byrne, and Leonardo Di-Caprio, was the end of an era that began with his first ready-to-wear col-lection in Milan in 1978. He was the king of frock 'n' roll, the one designer who could outglitz them all - and give star appeal, no matter who they were.

"Giorgio did it." joked fashion insiders, referring to the long-running rivalry between Versace and Armani. Armani meanwhile, issued a statement that the news had left him in shock: "Gianni was young and tal-ented, and he worked so hard. He had overcome a very serious disease with strength and dignity, embracing life with energy and a tremendous desire to accomplish things. Gianni Versace, together with a handful of



names, symbolises Italian fashion all over the world. My reaction is one of revolt against such an unnatural and violent death, and one of pro-found grief."

Sir years ago, Versace bought a rundown Mediterranean-style hotel, squeezed between the pastel-coloured art deco botels on Ocean Drive, and renovated it using Spanish and Italian techniques. Its 75-foot frontage faces on to 11th Street, a block from the popular Clevelander bar, and its observatory tower faces the grassy park, palm trees, jogging path and beach where the designer

FASHION VICTIM

cals and tourists gathered in the park, gazing across at the bloodstains and a blue tarpaulin marking the spot where the designer, son of a seam-stress from Reggio Calabria in southern Italy, fell.

Yesterday, thousands of curious lo-

Witnesses said Versace, his grey bair cut short and thinning, walked as usual from the beach's 24-hour News Cafe after having breakfast and buying Italian newspapers. But one cate waitress told reporters she thought he bad been acting strangely, by passing the café on the other side of the street before coming in. He later walked the four blocks to

Versace's life

1946 Born the son of a tailor in Reggio Catabria, southern Italy. 1972 Went into business with his brother and sister. 1978 Launched his label.

1982 Named best fashlon designer for his 1982/83 autumn/winter col-1984 Launched his fragrance Versace l'Homme. 1990 Opened his second boutique

in New York and his 11th in the Inited States 1991 Lauriched fragance Versus.

1992 Opened a five-storey store in Bond Street, London. 1994 Elizabeth Hurley is launched on the road to fame when she appears in that dress.

1997 Announced plans to float his

his home at 1116 Ocean Drive, past the renowned Mango's Tropical Cuban cafe and the Clevelander, and was opening the black wrought-iron gates of his home shortly before 9am when the gunman shot him twice in the back of the head.

The designer was said to be dead by the time he was taken to Jackson Memorial Hospital. From behind a cordon, reporters could see his blood staining the half-dozen steps and a stretch of the Ocean Drive

The gunman apparently fled north and may have changed his clothes in a car park on 13th Street, two blocks from the house.

Friends said Versace lived in the house most of the year, when not attending fashion shows, along with two male friends called Antonio and Paul, and, occasionally, his sister Do-natella. Several members of Miami Beach's gay community were among the crowds that gathered hehind a police cordon yesterday. One was briefly detained after trying to break through the cordon to toss flowers close to the spot of his death.

"He was a gentle man. I'm only trying to express my feelings for him, the young man said later.

One report said Versace had had an appointment with a personal fitness trainer at his home yesterday morning.

Friends at Miami Beach's glossy fahion magazine Ocean Drive described vesterday how Versace's arrival six years ago had boosted not only the fashion industry but Miami Beach's entire image. He was part of a movement to the resort by stars including Madonna and Sylvester

"He was the most giving man. When we launched our first edition. be almost took over. He got us Claudia Schiffer, in a black Versace gown, for the first cover," said Ocean Drive editor Jason Binn.

Alex Pepelas, mayor of Metroarea), said: "Versace embodied the energy and vibrance of South Beach. To a large extent, it was Versace's presence here that brought this community fame and fortune, that placed us on the cutting edge of fashion and entertaintment circles throughout the world. For all of that, we are eternally grateful."

Dark world behind the glamour,

Obituary, page 11



Fashion, page 12 Death of an icon: Gianni Versace, gunned down in Miami yesterday

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School inspectors to single out incompetent teachers by name

Education Editor

Inspectors will supply heads with individual profiles of each teacher under a controversial new grading system which will give schools more amounition against bad teachers.

From September heads will receive confidential reports dividing each teacher's lessons into three groups; very good, satisfactory or unsatisfactory. They will then use the infor-

mation along with their own evidence about individual teachers to decide what action to take. At present only the best and worst leachers are reported to headteachers but Chris Woodto identify poor teachers.

Despite Mr Woodhead's es-timate that there are 15,000 bad teachers, inspectors found only 88 poor or very poor ones in 2,000 inspections last year. The findings were based on a sevenpoint grading system for lessons. The Office for Standards in

Education (Ofsted), which Mr Woodhead heads, says the new proposals will not necessarily mean that more teachers are dismissed but heads will have a elearer picture of teachers' strengths and weaknesses. Unsatisfactory as well as poor and very poor teachers will now appear in the bottom group. Heads will also have more

seen are poor. However, a spokesman for Ofsted said: "We are not saying that these teachers should go. We are simply giv-ing the heads the inspectors' observations to use as addi-

tional management informa-tion." One bad lesson would not be grounds for action, he said, but it would be seen as part of evidence about a teacher's performance collected by the head. Both headteachers and teachers had asked for more detailed information about individual teachers' performance, he added. Teachers

would see their own profiles. Mr Woodhead told BBC Rahead, the Chief Inspector of discretion in deciding who are dio 4's *Today* programme: "If the worst teachers. Inspectors teachers are not doing the job

currently report teachers to the head if the majority of lessons they are paid to do, they should not be in post," be said. Equally, more teachers doing a hrilliant job would get recognition.

The seven-point grading sys-tem for lessons would stay. Nigel de Gruehy, General Secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers, said beadteachers were to blame for failing to discipline incompetent teachers. Because heads have been unable or unwilling to act on the information they have, it is most un-fair to make teachers pay the price by imposing a very crude and quite unprofessional system

on them." Heads said that they had no objections in principle to the plans but were concerned that

to manipulate statistics on poor teachers to justify Mr Woodhead's assertion that there were

15,000 incompetent teachers. David Hurl, General Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers said: "To pretend that these Ofsted reports will lead to heads taking more disciplinary action is scaremongering. Heads already monitor the quality of teaching. Any head who failed to take action would be asking for trouble."

Stephen Byers, the school standards minister, said that the plans were "entirely in line with the education White Paper published last week. It is all about being accountable and measuring effectively standards

Road schemes backed

The Government is set to anger the Governmentalists by approving the majority of road schemes in the first stage of its review of the £6bn highway-building programme.

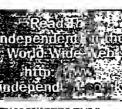
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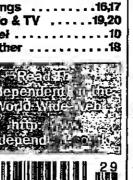
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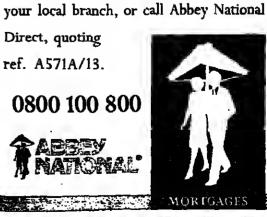
The pensions industry was slammed yesterday in a hard-hitting report from the Office of Fair Trading, only weeks after companies were carpeted by Treasury minister Helen Liddell. The OFT's director general, said millions of people had been sold short. Page 16

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Japanese lose their yen for Tetsu no Onna



Richard Lloyd Parry

Long after her fall from grace at home, Baroness Thatcher or Tersir no Onna ("Woman of lron") - remained a figure of great popularity and fascination in Japan. While British comedians were satirising her as a crazed barridan, the ex-prime minister was making frequent and lucrative speaking tours of and gave a post-prandial Japan to adoring coverage from speech, followed by a question Japan to adoring coverage from the local media.

One magazine was reported to have paid her £59,000 in 1991 for an interview, a formight ago, Japanese newspapers carried advertisements for high-powered seminars bearing the Thatcher countenance. But the Citizen Forum", as the event

tide seems to be finally turning.
This month, a city in northern
Japan is being sued by a group
was called, was 17.2 million
yen (£90,000), of which Yn15m
was for Lady Thatcher's ap-Japan is being sued by a group of irate citizens, after paying £79,000 for a few hours of the ex-prime minister's time.

On 27 May last year Lady Thatcher visited the city of Sendai, 300km north of Tokyo. Arriving in the late morning she attended a meeting with the mayor, a lunchtime reception, and answer session. In the afternoon, she visited a display of Burberry raincoats at a department store before being waved off on the bullet train back to Tokyo in late afternoon.

The bill for the entire "Earth

pearance, paid via the Dentsu advertising and public relations

At the beginning of this month, a local volunteer organisation, Sendai Citizens Ombudsman, filed a legal action against the mayor and two of his officials, demanding that they pay back most of the money and sack four members of the city's audit committee. This is too expensive, and we asked the audit committee for a breakdown," said Tsunesuke Knrayama, the group's secre-

Denisu and the city refuse to disclose bow the buge sum was broken down, so the group has written to Lady Thatcher to ask bow much she received.

A spokesman for the Sendai city office said that the YnJ5m included fees for an interpreter and the PR agency. "We think that our citizens appreciated the event, and her speech was worth what we paid," she said. But a Japanese businessman who has hosted speaker meetings on Lady Thatcher's behalf called it

"an absurd amount of money". A member of Lady Thatcher's staff said yesterday that her tary-general. "Their answer was that there is no problem with the payments. We haven't beard able for comment.

significant shorts

Whitehall calls halt to NHS fundholder 'fast-track'

The Government today will announce the end of "fast-track" service for patients of GP fundholders with the abolition of the internal market in the National Health Service.

The move by Health ministers will make it clear to health authorities and hospital trusts that they should plan to give family doctors equal access to operations for their patients. Some doctors who ran their own budgets were given priority by hospitals, but the competition between GPs is set to end.

Frank Dobson, Secretary of State for Health, will signal plans to replace fundholding with more co-operation between GPs. fulfilling a Labour electioo manifesto commitmeot.

Sculptor charged over body parts

A tutor at the Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture has been accused of stealing human body parts for use in his sculpture exhibits, Scotland Yard revealed yesterday.

Anthony-Noel Kelly, 41, of Briston, south London, who is a cousin of the Duke of Norfolk, is charged with the theft of anatomical parts from bodies donated to the Royal College of Surgeons for medical research. The thefts are alleged to have taken place from June 1991 to November 1994. Mr Kelly and his place from June 1991 to November 1994. Mr Kelly and his co-accused. Niel Lindsay, a 24-year-old former mortuary assistant at the college, will appear before Horseferry Road magistrates' court in central London on 15 August: A Metropolitan Police investigation into the sculptor's activities was launched in April after coocerns were raised by Dr Laurence Martin, Her Majesty's Inspector of Anatomy. A former butcher and abattoir worker, Mr Kelly is alleged to have used the body parts to create casts for anatomically correct silver-coated models.

Strip-search review for prisoners



The strip-searching of womeo prisoners is to be reviewed, a Home Office minister anoounced last night.

Joyce Quinn (left), the Prisons minister, said in a Parliameotary writteo answer that she had asked the Prisoo Service to review its policy and to look at whether there was a oeed for change. The issue of whether womeo prisoners should be treated differently from meo should be considered. she told Lynne Jones, Labour

MP for Birmingham Selly Oak, Current policy states that stripsearches should be carried out by officers the same sex as the inmate, although last month a woman prisoner at Highpoint Prison in Suffolk was strip-searched by four male officers after she threatened to kill herself; an inquiry into the incident is under way.

Assassination link to strangled man

Political assassins may have killed a Colombian asylum-seeker whose body was found, wrapped in a black bio-liner, dumped in a field in Hertfordshire. Detectives are examining the possibility that Hernan Mora Aristizabal, 34, who was strangled, was murdered by hitmen. Mr Aristizabal left his home in oorth Loodoo on 5 July after receiving a telephone call, and his body was found at a farm oear Shenley the following day. He is believed to have fled Colombia two years ago and to have claimed political asylum. Police are looking into reports that his brother was a victim of a political assassination in Columbia two years ago. Mr Aristizabal was married with two children, and was studying engineering in Loodon. Jason Bonnetto

'News of the World' fined £50,000

The News of the World was fined £50,000 for contempt of court

expose criminals at the expense of the criminal justice system.
In 1994 the newspaper ran a story under the headline "We
Smash £100m Fake Cash Ring" that led to the trial being stayed of Tony Yetter Hassan and Anthony John Caldori. Lord Justice Pill, sitting with Mr Justice Astill, said the article "beyond doubt constituted a contempt of court".

BA fails to take off after strike

British Airways services at Heathrow will not return to normal until oext Monday following last week's strike - around five days later than planoed. Around 40 per ceot of short-haul flights and 25 per ceot of loog-houl services were cancelled yesterday. Some 2,000 staff reported sick last week before the three day stoppage and yesterday around 1,500 were still off work. Airline under fire, page 16

Normal life for Siamese twins

Siamese twins who returned bome this week after being separated in an operation at Great Ormand Street hospital in London, should grow up into normal healthy adults, doctors said yesterday. The twins, who have not been named, were joiced at the chest and abdomen and shared only one organ – the liver.

Jerenty Laurance

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Return of the native as Liverpool welcomes Cherie

Mis Booti, 42, was joined by her parents as she posed for photographs on the steps of the city's An-glican Cathedral, before joining 500 university students graduating in law and social sciences. Her mother, Gale,

seld yesterday. I am very provid of her. I think it is: wonderful that she is bere in Livetpool. That is where she was brought in."

John Moore's University annually awards Honorary. Fellowships to people from the Merseyside area "in

recognition of outstanding achievements and contri-bution to qubite life. Also receiving awards this week are trestaution Bergi. Barrionege, the broadcaster Pa-ter Sissons, rugby league star Martio Offiah and the

comedian Ken Dodd. Ms Booth grew up in a terraced house in Ferndale

cherie Booth returned to fish home town of Liver expool yesterflay to technic an honorary fellowship from John Moore's University.

As she collected her dward, his Booth said afterwas very pound to be fire great up.

To is a great bonour to be recognised as a Liver publish. Even after 20 years in London, I remain one at heart, she said.

Mis Booth, daughter of the council extra liver be here.

ms Booth, daughter of the comic ects. Tony Booth, praised the spirit of the people of Liverpile. Implied the spirit of the people of Liverpile. Implied the transfer of one famous Scotts of the transfer to tell you of the humour of the Liverpile people. This are all so kind, generous and open with

Her father said he honed the success sing schleved in life would inspire all feet said sense from Mersyside; but throughout Puttingers of the university ine a better role model to portain for us to have a crues of the city.

Not only is all the said to the said of the city.

she is a mother and the right.

Old timers are

past it, says

professor of pop

The Spice Girls were given acade-

mic respectability yesterday while

Ten albums from the last year

have been shortlisted for the Mer-

cury Music Prize, which claims to

be the Booker of the music indus-

classical, through jazz and dance music to pop. But new albums from Paul McCartney, David Bowie,

Blur and U2 were not considered

Chairman of the judges is Simon Prith, Professor of English at Stratholyde University. He defend-

ed the inclusion of the Spice Girls

alongside rock bands like Radio-

head and Prodigy, and classical

He said: "McCartney never

came through strongly enough.

Bowie was discussed for a very

artist. But he was trying to use a

formthat he didn't use as skilfully

as the Chemical Brothers, whom

we have shortlisted." David Liste

long time. He is an interesting

artists Mark-Anthony Tumage and

strong enough.

try and includes all genres from

popular music's old guard were

given a withering brush-off.

Briton poised for space trek after colleague falls ill

As troubles on the Mir space station go from bad to worse, there is now a real possibility that the British astronaut Michael Foale (right) will be asked to embark on a hazardous repair mission into a module damaged in last month's

crash with a cargo ship. Russian officials have asked Nasa whether it will allow the 40-year-old astrophysicist to take the place on the mission of Mir's commander, Vasily Tsibliyev, who has been complaining of heart prob-

lems, tiredness, and overwork. The switch would mean a signiflcant change of plan; during the operation. Dr Foale was to have manned a Soyuz escape capsule, which will be ready to launch an emergency getaway. However, Nasa wild that he was fully trained to stand in for the Russian cosmonaut. "If it's necessary, we can do this," said a spokesman.

The sortie, which was yesterday postponed for up to 10 days because of the Russian's allment, requires two of the crew to enter the dark, airless, freezing and



cramped Spektr module, which was punctured during the collision, the worst accident in Mir's 11-year history.

The crew has been preparing for the space trek by studying mock-ups at mission control, but their task is further complicated by uncertainty over what may be floating around inside Spektr, whose contents include laboratory equipment. There has been concem that chemicals may have escaped from their containers and may damage the cosmonauts' equipment.

Phil Reeves, Moscow

EMPLOYMENT

Men's prospects can be harmed by job programmes

Joining the wrong government jobs programme can actually harm noming the wrong government jobs programme can actually harm men's employment prospects, according to new research from the Policy Studies institute. It reports that Work Trials, which placed 20,000 people in 1994/95, intreased the chance of a job by 35-40 per cent for botts men and women. However, Job Canbs increased women's chances of employment by 15 per cent, but boosted prospects for unqualified men far less, and actually reduced the prospects of a job for men with vocational

and actually reduced the prospects for unquanned meo tar tess, and actually reduced the prospects of a job for meo with vocational qualifications. The scheme, with 250,000 places in 1994/95, also reduced the earnings of the typical male participant by 7 per cent compared with what he would have earned if he had not taken part. Similarly, the 300,000 places on the Job Interview Guarantee Scheme improved appears and proveded prospects for

Scheme improved women's chances and worsened prospects for men with qualifications. men with qualifications.

Steve Lissenburgh, co-author of the report, said the positive effect of the small Work Trials scheme showed the importance of high quality placement schemes. Skilled male workers are harder to help once they have slipped into long-term unemployment.

The Impact of Public Iob Placing Programmes, Policy Studies Institute, from Grantham Distribution, 01476 541080. Diane Coyle

Exotic pets expose owners to danger

Gone are the days when a pets in the average British home were limited to dogs, cats, and budgies, with the more adventurous perhaps seeking out terrapins. Now shops across the country are stocking a whole range of exotica from scorpions to crocodiles. But owning unusual pets can lead to unusual problems. And the RSPCA yesterday launched a campaign to make potential owners sware of what they are taking on.

A survey has shown that

some pet shops are failing to provide customers with formation about the risks

In one case a Bhrningham woman discovered that the relatively harmless" scorpi she had bought was, in fact, highly poisonous. The young mother had also been told wrongly by the pet shop she did not need a Dangerous Wild Animals licence to keep it. Kim Songupta



FINANCE

Careers services not up to scratch

Contracting out careers services has cost fom over three years, yet the service is falling well below performance targets. The National

Audit Office said yesterday.

It found that introducing market forces to the service, which was previously run by local authorities, had represented "a significant and costly administrative hurden".

Despite the cost, the process had failed to stimulate the creation of new private-sector providers to bid for the contracts. Instead, the vast majority of careers services were still being run by local authorities, though usually in partnership with training and enterprise councils.

The NAO also found that, though coobracting out had provided

competition, it had also had a damaging effect on co-operation and sharing of good practice between careers services.

The report recommends replacing the present approach with a system of licenses for careers services when current coorgets expire. The DFEE should look again at target-setting to establish a more flexible system while being ready to enforce sanctions, the study concludes.

TRAVEL

Beans means Benidorm ... or Brum

Britons may like travelling abroad - but they prefer to eat as if they were at home, especially at breakfast time, according to a

Survey published yesterday.

Faced with continental croissants and coffee, Britons abroad make sure they have all the ingredients for a good old traditional fry-up, including sausages, bacon and brown sauce. A survey of more than 1,000 adults for credit card company Visa

showed that Britons are stick-in-the-muds when it comes to foreign food. Two-thirds of tourists take some food abroad, although the Scots are the most restrained, with 43 per cent arriving at their destinations empty-handed.

Top of the edible exports British bolidaymakers take with them are tea-bags. Almost 40 per cent of Geordies take sausages, while a third of Brummies take a tin of baked beans.

Although tea bags are universal favourites, regional variations show that just 1 per cent of Scots pack e jar of Marmite, compared to 25 per cent of travellers from the West Country.

Other home-grown favourites taken abroad include cornflakes. (packed by 27 per cent of people), brown sauce or tomato ketching

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The dark world behind Versace's life of glamour

Andrew Gumbel and Steve Boggan

The brutal death of Gianni Versace yesterday hrought home a unpleasant, little acknowledged truth: that the fash-ion world, for all its glamour and pretty packaging, is a far murki-er, and far more dangerous, milieu than at first appears.

The warning signs have been there for years. Look at the bitter, protracted feuding within the Gucci family, leading to the break-up of the family business and the murder of its last emperor, Maurizio, two years ago, apparently at the hands of his ex-wife. Or the tax bribery scandal, still grinding its way through the courts, in which a clutch of Italy's top designers have been forced to admit having paid off the finance police to escape

3 S0:305

over-zealous investigation. Fashion has always been touted as Italian enterprise at its best, a mix of great visual flair and industrious attention to detail. Versace was in many ways the dream boy of the new gen-eration of couturiers: always challenging old orthodoxies, mother, Franca, was a dress-always mixing styles, always maker, although Gianni would generating controversy while often say she ran the greatest

adoring fans happy.
But Versace also embodied the fashion world in a far more fundamental way. He was a showman, a magician forever dazzling his audiences with bright shiny surfaces and wowing the gossip columnists with his entourage of film stars, rock idols and princesses. What lay beneath the surface, however. was something he never cared to show and did his hest, through the distraction of his visual fireworks, to discourage people from delving into.

He spun fantastical tales about his deprived childhood in Calabria, in the boot of the Italian peninsula. The region is known as the home of the 'Ndragheta, one of the most feared Mafia clans. Born in December 1946, his family appears to have had humble origins. Santo, his brother, was born two years earlier and Donatella, their sister, followed in

His father, Antonio, who died last year, was a coal merchant who later opened a shop selling electrical goods. His keeping his core andience of conture studio in southern Italy.



Gianni moved to Milan and in 1972 hegan designing pret-à-porter collections for Arnaldo Girombelli, one of the most respected names in Italian fashion. After the success of these, he launched his own line in 1978, and opened his own shop in Milan. His influence grew from there until, by 1995, Versace had a turnover of \$900m.

Like many poor boys made

good, there was more than a hint of melodrama in his accounts - harmless perhaps, but all part of the Versace hravado. As he conquered first Milan and then the world, he liked to think of himself as an open, essentially simple man who had no secrets from anybody. He became the first major designer to

talk openly about his homo-

sexuality. He hrother Santo

and sister Donatello were also

Versace showed off his sumptuous homes in Milan, on Lake Como, in New York and, latterly, on Miami Beach, but refused to talk about the profitability of the husiness or the role of a holding company registered in the Netherlands. He talked for years of going public on the New York Stock Exchange, but the flotation was endlessly deferred.

احكذا من الاصل

The fashion world, and in particular the Italian media, have responded to Versace and the other designers with their own kind of omerta, or willing silence. They are treated like royalty and, in Italy, considered an asset to their country. It just wouldn't be polite to ask how Versace lived so ostentatiously. No doubt a lot of questions

will be asked in the wake of Versace's death. Versace's own shattered: he told an Italian newspaper on the eve of his 50th birthday last December that he imagined himself dying by a tranquil lakeside, like the scion of a declining aristocratic family. His epitaph, he hoped, would say he was a man who took pleasure in hreaking conventions and mixing genres, eras and social classes. It seems that, in reality, Versace dan-

gerously overreached himself, It was difficult yesterday to loosen the normally loquacious lips of the slick men and women who people the fashion world. But when they could be persuaded, they repeatedly shaped the word "Maffa". These people are nothing if

not dramatic hut, this time, they believed there was good reason for their suspicion of Mob involvement. Quite simply,

In March 1995, one of Gianni very vulnerable. They have huge Versace's most flamboyant con-temporaries, Maurizin Gucci, turnovers and the Mafia want met his death in a similar way as he left his 18th century palazzo in Milan. A lone gunman followed him for a short distance, fired two hullets into the hack of his head, two into his face and

then fled in a waiting green car. The subsequent police inquiry uncovered a web of intrigue, of family feuds and dehts of up to £40m. Rumours persisted of a contract killing by a creditor who got tired of waiting for his money.

The answer, when it comes, is based on informed suspicion. Its logic is irresistible but

"People generally feel that Gucci was killed because he hadn't paid protection money to mer wife, Patrizia Martinelli, the Mafia, "said one industry in- 'who was allegedly angry at hav-sider. "The fashion houses, par- ing to get by on £500,000 a year seen.

some of it." During the "clean hands" inquiries into hrihery and tax evasion in the early 1990s, the fashion houses of Gianfranco Ferre, Giorgio Armani and Mariuccia Mandelli, better known as Krizia, all admitted paying hribes – under duress –to Italian tax inspectors. What, people asked, if Gucci had been paying hribes at one end to the inspectorate and protection money to the Mafia at the other? To whom could he com-

The theory fell flat, however, when, earlier this year, five people were arrested for Gucci's murder - including his for-

Glossy façade: Gianni Versace seen with models Naomi Campbell and Carla Carbruni. But the shown who dazzled his adoring fans with his designs discouraged people from delving beneath the surface Photograph: Richard Young/Rex

maintenance

So what of Versace? Already, similar rumours are circulating around the fashion houses of the world. Although his brother, Santo, and sister. Donatclla, have reputations beyond reproach, enemies and friends were prepared to blacken Gianni's name as soon as his broken head hit the Miami Beach

"He was known as the launderette of the fashion business," said one City analysi, "Not because of his clothes, but because people believed he personally laundered money for the Mafia ... where did his fantastic wealth come from?"

"Those who were jealous of his success chose to believe it came from other, darker, quarters. But there has been no evidence whatsoever to support

that theory."

The police inquiry will inevitably follow similar patterns to the Gucci investigation and there are those who believe they

will find that Versace was not as wealthy as his image suggested. Questions were asked over how he could afford to live in Som mansion in Miami while keeping a \$7m New York town house dripping with Picassos and a Rauschenberg, and the

palazzo on Lake Como. Detectives will find that there were frictions between Gianni and Santo, whom insiders say he did not treat well, and Donatella, whom he was once thought to he grooming as his

And the officers will hear rumours about Gianni's gay sex life: that there may have been jealous lovers; that he had been receiving treatment for Aids.

"He was strangely uncomfortable about his sexuality. said one friend, "He always tried to appear macho hut he had a naturally feminine side. He kept his private life very much to himself."

Whatever they find, the po-lice will find nothing simple in the life of Gianni Versace. Whether, at the end of what is likely to be a tortuous investigation, they too will be using the



Stunned models at a fashion show in Rome yesterday after learning of Versace's death Photograph: AP known Gianni personally for 10 years, and it is

'Part of my life died with him'

Kate Watson-Smyth

Glanni Versace's flagship store in Bond Street, London, was closed yesterday as a mark of respect. Crowds gathered outside and flowers

were placed in the doorway.

Some of the most influential names in fashion and showhusiness paid trihute to the designer. One of his closest friends, Elton John, said he was shattered by the news.

"I am devastated to have lost one of my closest friends, who I loved so much, and who I had been so looking forward to seeing him again on holiday very soon. We were so close that it is like a large part of my life has died with him. I'm in deep shock at the news and it hasn't really sunk in yet. The world has lost a wonderful creative genius and I have lost a

Jeff Banks, the former host of the BBC's Clothes Show, compared Versace's death to the murder of John Leonon in 1980. "I had a shock comparable to hearing that John terrific designer who brought so many things about modern fashion to the fore.

Elizabeth Hurley, whose career took off after she wore a black Versace dress held together with safety pins to the première of Four Weddings and a Funeral, said the shooting was an appalling thing to have happened.
"Gianni was a very dear friend of mine and

I am going to miss him terribly. He was always very kind and lovely to me and he will be hideously missed by everyone."

Diana, Princess of Wales, who choose to wear Versace the first time she appeared in a non-British designer's outfit, said she was "devastated" by his death.

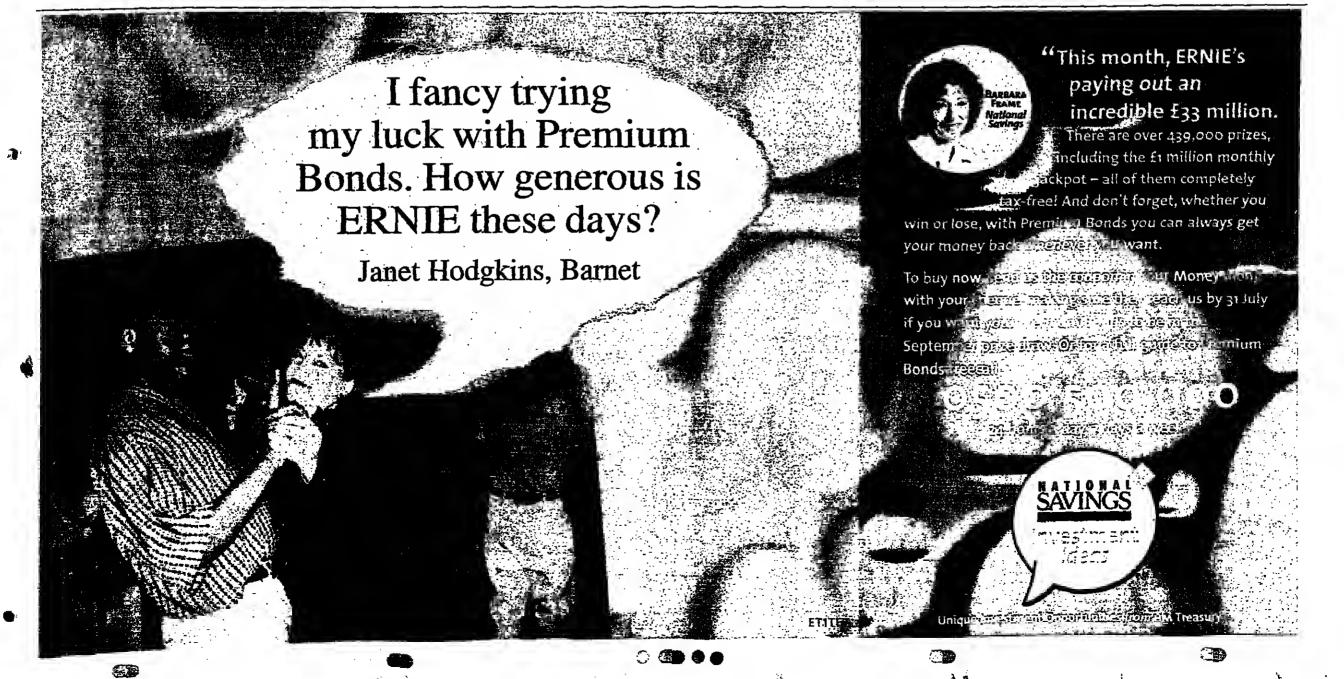
Kate Moss, the model who had worked on several advertising campaigns with Versace, said: "I am just so stunned. I am at a complete loss for words. And Clandia Schiffer, who also modelled for him, said: "Words cannot

describe how much I will miss him. He was not Lemmon had died. Versace was at the height of his powers when he was shot down. He was a extraordinary to work with but was also such a wonderful and caring man." The designer, Bruce Oldfield, said Versace

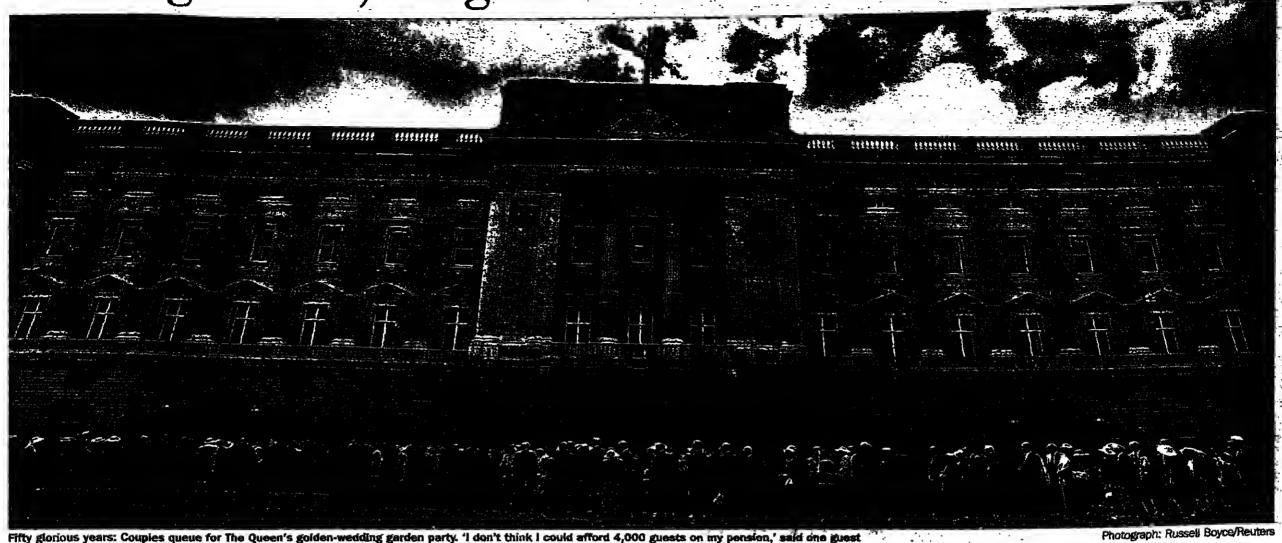
was a master. Gianni always went for the grand entrance. He was uncompromisingly glitzy. He was glitz, glitz, glitz. But he was a modest man and a lot of fun. He made fun of himself and he will definitely be missed." Alexandra Shulman, the editor of logue said

Versace was one of the most important designers of the century. And the fashion designer, Mary Quant, said: "He was all about life. His designs were immediately recognisable as rich, glamourous and sexy. He dared to use a strong dash of vulgarity just beautifully. He was a man who everyone adored."

Vivienne Westwood, who is also known for her flamboyant style, said Versace's death was a great tragedy and a great shock. "He was obviously one of the most talented and famous designers of the last few years."



Feeding of the 4,000: golden oldies take tea with The Queen



Michael Streeter and Lianne Kolirin

Buckiogham Palace had all the ingredients one would expect from a mass celebration of Goldeo Wedding anniversaries yesterday, best suits and hats, gawping tourists, a town crier - and 50 Red Cross staff on standby for those who succumbed

The golden oldies, some from as far the long wait and the lengthy walk as Live and Let Die and Goldfinge of yards around the Palace, the lines

almost reaching Hyde Park corner. The mood was quiet, predictably orderly, and humorous. One pensioner remarked: "You can tell we are all from the war-generation by

the way we are queuing up!"

Inevitably some suffered from

as Australia, proudly clutched their in- with several fainting in the gentle sunshine and one person collapsing inside the Palace itself, with a suspected heart attack.

All, though, were anxious to meet The Queen and Prince Philip to share the one thing they all had in common - the year of their wedding. Mr Leow, a part-time actor who appeared in James Bond films, such

get asked to Buckingham Palace." Mrs Ottilie Bishop, from Newcastle-under-Lyme, came alone after her husband fell ill two days ago. "I

hope they will let me in oo my own. I am really looking forward to it, after all she won't ask me again will she?"

As they filed inside the gates, the couples praised The Queen and Prince Philip for their years of long marriage. Though many among the 4,000 felt the Royal children had let the older generation down. All had the own per theories about the success of a long marriage. Wheel-chair bound Marjory

Bushell, 70, from Portswood

Fast forward: highways

to the future

husband Harry, said: "You should oever go to hed on a quarrel. It is an achievement to be married this long whether you're The Queeo or

Joe and Enna Turner, from Doulas, on the Isle of Mann, said it came down to determination: "Our generation worked hard at marriage, that's how it was," said Mr Turner, "It must be harder for The Queen and

The Duke being in the public eye." Another couple standing nearly added: "The secret is a good row, good making up and getting on with it." Some reflected on the contrast be-

tween the lavish Palace reception and their more modest celebrations, Mrs. Leow said: "We had a little celebration in Croydon with our children -I don't think I could afford 4,000

Green blow as road schemes get go-ahead

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

The Government is set to anger environmentalists by approving the majority of schemes io the first stage of its review of the £6ha road-building programme.

As many as eight projects out of 12 are likely to be given the green light by ministers next week, Gavin Strang, the Trans-port minister, will try to defuse campaigners' criticism by blaming the previous government. He will claim that ministers have heen forced into "taking decisions based on the last administration's lack of a proper

transport policy".

The most embarrassing decision will be to build the

£300m Birmingham Northern Relief Road, Britain's first toll motorway which will cut a swathe through the city's greco belt. Frank Dobsoo, when he was shadow transport secretary, stated it would never be

Local cars will have to pay £2 to use the new motorway which its builders say will help hold down traffic levels in the heavily congested Midlands. However, Barooess Hayman, the roads minister, admitted to Labour MPs that the Government would have to pay £30m in compensation to Midiand Expressway - the private sector consortium building the road -

The M25 widening scheme

around south-west London which was giveo the go-shead by Tory transport ministers at a cost of £85m - will also be rubber stamped by Dr Strang. Designed to ease congestion on the motorway's busiest stretch by widening it between junctions 12 and 15 to np to six lanes, it was attacked by Labour's shadow transport team who said it would be "swamped with

queues within 10 years". Ministers will also proceed with a £163m widening of the M2 in Kent after officials pointed out that provision for the road was made in the Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill - passed tw John Major's government. Two projects which will com-plete existing road schemes will

Derby Southern bypass. Most controversially, minis-

ters are set to approve three "private" road projects, fi-nanced under the Department of Transport's private finance scheme, because the teodering process has gone too far to be cancelled. This is despite criticism of the scheme by ministers.

A £100m development linking Bradford and Cumbria will

claim no local group opposes it.

There will be some sops to the green lobby. The Salisbury

be waived through: the final sec-tion of Manchester's ring road Yorkshire Dales National Park see roads encroach into the -known as "The Box" - and a Another project, the Weald half-mile stretch to finish the and Downland upgrade, which has been attacked by carvironmentalists but backed by East Sussex County Council, will

also win approval.
The £115m South Midlands Network, which consists of eight road improvement and construction projects, has found favour with DoT officials who

bypass, one of the prime targets of environmentalists during the past decade, will be abandoned. The 11-mile bypass, which threatened water meadows on the edge of the city, was con-sidered the "most sensitive" in the "accelerated review" of 12 priority road schemes. Other developments being shelved are the A40 west London approach,

the M62 East link road. The final decision on all 12

schemes will be made by min-

that he was to be detained

which were not communicated

the A13 Thames Gateway and

Opted-out schools are lured back by councils

Education Correspondent

Local government leaders are planning a diplomatic offensive to lure opted-out schools back under the wing of education au-

Labour-run councils are today receiving letters from the Local Government Association (LGA) urging them to begin enticing grant-maintained schools, which are funded centrally and run their own affairs, to return to the fold.

News of the letter, seen by The Independent, has caused consternation among heads of opted-out schools, who yesterday condemned the step as

"extraordinarily premature". The campaign is being launched in advance of major changes to the state schools framework, set out in the education White Paper published last week and due to come into force in July 1998.

The Government is commit-ted to abolishing grant-main-tained status and introducing a new system under which schools will choose to adopt foundation,

community or aided status. Consultation papers on the detail of the three options are due to be published shortly, but opted-out schools are expected to incline towards foundation status, which offers the most freedom for self-government. Community schools will be closest to LEAs, while aided status will be the likely option for

In a letter to chairs of education committees, Graham Lane, LGA education chair, urges authorities to "opeo the diplomatic corridor, to grantmaintained schools to convince them to opt for community rather than foundation status.

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Council officers should meet headteachers of opted-out schools with the aim of re-establishing cootact and offering reassurance, he suggests. Ideas that could be explored include encouraging grant-maintained schools to huy back services from the LEA and co-ordinat-

ing admission arrangements. By opening up old links, Mr. Lane says, "GM schools will increasingly see themselves as becoming automatically community schools rather than foundation schools".

As foundation schools, the letter warns, formerly opted-out schools could become "GM. schools in exile", whose powers could be increased by a future

well prove wary of LEA over-tures. Most have relished their greater autonomy since awing LEA control and mayibe un-willing to relinquish free tions. The Government has

stressed that it does not mant to become embroiled in dibates over structures in schools.

Under the White Paper, LEAs are given an expan role, but their mission is chiefly to raise standards while waving schools maximum freedom to manage themselves.

System failed architect who killed mother

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

A successful architect who suffered a breakdown and stabbed his mother to death before killing himself was a victim of grave failings in the emergency mental health care system, an independent inquiry has found. In one of the most highly critical reports of the care of the dangerously mentally ill to appear in recent years, the inquiry says the efforts of 14 doctors,

nurses and social workers over one weekend in January 1996 failed to protect Gilbert Kopernik-Steckel, 33, and his family, of South Norwood, south London, from the ef-fects of his acute psychotic ill-ness. Although all the

professionals recognised the danger he posed there was "an overwhelming failure in com-munications" which led to the deaths, it says. A consultant psy-chiatrist who visited the family

DIRECTLINE

Suzanne, 57 as "a sitting duck". A separate inquiry, also pub-lished yesterday, into the death of psychiatric patient David Howell of Birmingham identi-fied similar failings in his care, although it says changes it recommends would not neces ily prevent a similar incident in the future because of the unpredictable nature of psychotic illness. Unlike Mr Kopernik-Steckel, Mr Howell had been a long term mental pa-tient who had lived in a resi-

dential home since 1985 and but whose condition also deteriorated suddenly and without warning. On 20 November last year he was shot dead by police after taking a supermarket manager hostage by bolding a knife to his throat.

Both inquiry reports add to the litany of disasters involving the care of the mentally ill which have repeatedly high-lighted poor communication, inadequate co-operation and a charged himself, despite

lack of mutual respect among the agencies involved. Mr Kopernik-Steckel's case was unusual because be had no known history of mental illness. He was a middle class professinnal man pursuing a success ful career in Paris and Berlin

who had returned home to spend Christmas with his family when his illness struck. Over the last, fateful weekend, he twice admitted himself to the lo-cal mental hospital but twice dis-

to the nursing staff who let him go. It was the failure of the Croydon Mental Health Unit to keep him in hospital during the emergency that attracts the inquiry panel's strongest criti-cism. "We do not believe that the seriousness of this incident could have been predicted. We do, however, believe that the tragic ontcome was not in-evitable," the report says.

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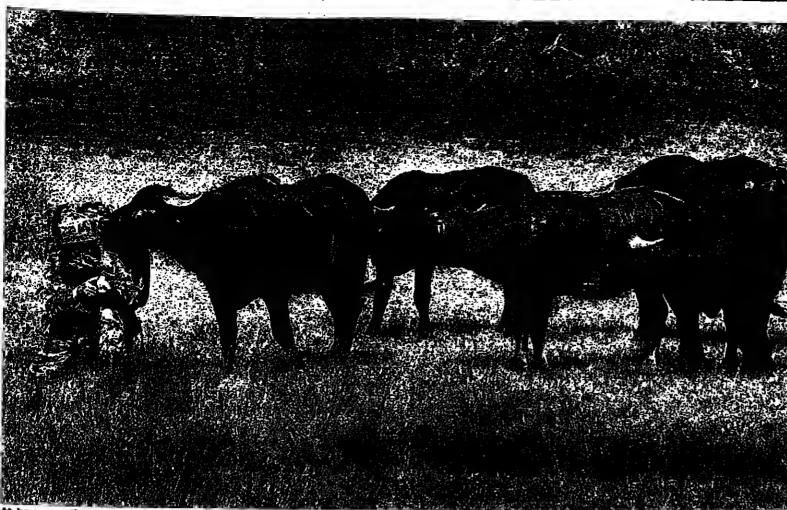
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At home on the range: A soldier in training at Sandhurst having his ear licked by a Romanian water buffalo as others from the herd look on. The

Legal fat cats plead their case for the cream

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

Barristers and legal aid campaigners reacted with anger vesterday after the Lord Chancellor succeeded in turning a House of Lords debate about a massive increase in court fees into an attack on "fat cat" QCs who earn a million a year. Beleaguered barristers had to

concede that Lord Irvine, the Lord Chancellor, had pulled a highly effective political stroke. Robert Owen QC said: "The

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Bar is committed to working with others to make justice atfordable, accessible and costeffective. Spiralling court fees have only one effect and that is to deny justice for people on low incomes. That is the issue that needs to be addressed and was dehate."

A Bar council spokesman said Lord Irvine's closing speech in the debate served only as a distraction from the court fees issue, pointing out, right-ly, that millionaire QCs work predominantly for the private sector, and for big corporate clients where money is simply no object. Lord Irvine himself was one of these before taking office as Lord Chancellor, although it is thought be was a mere half-million man.

One million a year is the kind of money that borders, in the estimation of some, on the obscene. Lord Irvine cleverly alluded to the fact that this handful of top lawyers - commercial, tax and libel specialists - earns four times as much as

carn about the same as some ton accountants, captains of industry, or advertising, mar-keting and financial high-fivers. £120 to £500 in some cases, and

Justice for the rich? Courtroom heavyweights who reap the rewards



Roy Amlot QC, 54, a heavyweight criminal silk who both prosecutes and Department says that in 1995-96 he received £450,000 to £499,000 from the criminal legal aid fund. Acted for defence in Barlow Clowes and Blue Arrow



Charles Gray QC, 55, has become the leading star of the libel bar. Likely to earn **Educated at Winchester** and Oxford, he has homes in London and Dorset Glittering list of famous clients includes Jason Donovan, Ian Botham and Jonathan Altken.



Andrew Park QC, 58, also likely to earn a million in his mainly tax practice. He former head of Nissan UK and once one of the world's richest men, when the Inland Revenue issued a warrant for his arrest last year, but in general he tends to keep away from big-name clients.



Anthony Scrivener QC, 61. an all-rounder who does civil and criminal and a seas work. He also does a certain amount of pro bono work. While a thorn in the flesh of the white male legal establishment, he earns a million most years. He was chairman of the Bar in 1991.

with the apparent approval of their clients and shareholders. Such a state of affairs enabled the Lord Chancellor to declare on Monday that "fat cat lawyers railing at the inquity of court fees do not attract the sympathy of the public".

The fortunes of the £1m-ayear fat cats, however, has little to do with the crisis facing legal aid. But it is equally obvious that the hike in court fees designed to recover an extra £50m a year, bringing the total But equally, fat-cat civil QCs annual fee income to £335m must act as a deterrent to some would-be hitigants. High Court

rises of between 50 and 150 per cent apply in other civil proceedings. People in the legal aid poverty trap, with sound but modest claims, are now likely to think twice before issuing proceedings with a view, for example, to persuading a recalci-trant defendant to settle a case.

Those claiming benefits such as Job Seekers' Allowance, Disability Working Allowance and Family Credit do not automatically qualify for fee remissions or reductions, like those on Income Support, and must apply for them, not always successfully. But delay and uncertainty are the principal deterrents, along-side cost, to seeking justice. The

stem involves all three ills. Vicki Chapman, policy officer for the Legal Action Group (LAG), the legal aid campaigning organisation, said:
"We are concerned about the impact of the increases on people on very low incomes. Lord lrvine has completely failed to answer that question. If you are seeking to suspend a warrant for possession, you haven't got time to seek a fee remission or

reduction and wait for it to arrive. You have to find the fee and if you can't, your legal ac-

operation of the new court fee lor's emphasis on Bar fat cats was designed to divert attention away from the court fees row. The number of people being put off by high fees was unquantifi-able, he said, "but research suggests that large numbers of people who could litigate don't.

Court fees are a part of this." Meanwhile, sums of £150,000 to £300,000 can routinely be made by leading QCs in big criminal and civil cases, particularly fraud and child care. Despite the existence of set pay scales in civil cases and the introduction of graduated fees tion does not proceed."

Roger Smith, the group's director, said the Lord Chancelremains. in criminal cases, a large ele-

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Andrews denies vicious temper led to murder

Kim Sengupta

Lee Harvey was yesterday described in court as a woman of considerable deceit".

Clutching a crumpled white tissue in her hand, Ms Andrews, 28, was accused by David Crigman QC, for the prosecu-tion, of making up a "road-rage" attack to hide ber killing of the man she professed to love.

Mr Harvey, 25. had been stabbed 30 times as the couple drove home along country lanes near their home in Alvechurch, Worcestershire, in December. Ms Andrews bad claimed that he had been stabbed after being chased by another car.

But the jury at Birmingham Crown Court was told that despite publicity about the murder no witness had come forward to say they had seen a pursuit between two cars.

Mr Crigman accused Ms Andrews of repeatedly stabbing Mr. Harvey in the back as he tried had exploded in a vicious temto escape from a frenzied attack following a " blazing row". He asked her how she could explain blood splashes found at the rear wards me." The case continues.

of the couple's Ford Escort.

Ms Andrews denied that she Tracie Andrews, accused of the and Mr Harvey bad rowed roadside murder of her france about the father of her sevenyear-old daughter, or that the row had exploded into violence.

Ms Andrews said: "I am not going to admit to anything I have not done." Mr Crigman said: "Lee Harvey retreated from his attacker at the rear of the car did he not?" Ms Andrews replied: "I don't know." Asked if she was the attack-

er, she said: "No, I was not." Ms Andrews admitted no one had come forward to support the crucial part of her story but blamed the police for not asking potential witnesses about a Sierra car which was allegedly pursuing the couple.

You are a woman of con-siderable deceit, said Mr Crigman. Ms Andrews responded: " No I am not, I am trying to help the best I can but it was hard going back along that toad and I don't want to go."

Ms Andrews denied that she per on the journey. The relastormy. He had been violent to-

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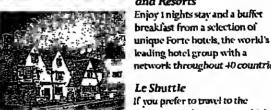


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Haughey let banker deal with finances

Alan Murdoch Dublin

Charles Haughey yesterday denied that while he was Taoiseach he knew his close friend and hanker had raised £1.3m to pay off dehts incurred by his regal lifestyle and that the money had been obtained from

stores chief Ben Dunne. Mr Haughey, 71, who was Taoiseach four times between

1979 and 1992, amassed trappings of wealth ranging from a 300-acre estate, a private island and holiday home to racehorses, works of art and a yacht.

Mr Haughey's appearance in the witness box was the climax of a tribunal set up in February to investigate payments to politicians by Mr Dunne, the former head of Dunnes Stores. The former Fianna Fail party leader said he had only learnt

of the payments from his banker, Des Traynor, in 1993, a year after he had resigned as premier. He added: "I want to say I did not have a lavish lifestyle. My

work was my lifestyle." He said Mr Traynor, who died in 1994, had taken over full control of all matters concerning his personal finances around 1960 and had "complete discretion" to act on his behalf

He added: "I never had to concern myself about my personal finances. With hindsight, it is clear that I should have involved

myself to a greater degree."
Pressed on how he could not have known of the Dunnes funding, he said: "Des Traynor was a man of few words. He just dealt with what he had to do." He insisted that Mr Traynor had seen it as "his personal responsibility to ensure that I

and ability to public life and would oot be distracted by nancial considerations."

Mr Haughey said Mr Dunne "did not seek, nor was he granted, any favours. Mr Dunne did it without any expectation of re-ward." He claimed that in hindsight had he known of the approach made to Mr Dunne he would not have authorised it. Asked if his earlier false

bunal were "pretty economic". Mr Haughey replied "I hate that phrase. It has been flogged

When tribunal counsel Denis McCullough, citing his eventu-al admission on 30 June that he had "probably" received the £1.3m, asked if that meant "you then had your hands up?" Mr Haughey replied "Fully." Mr McCullough quipped: "Not

quite Mr Haughey. Perhaps at shoulder height." The former premier nodded, smiling.

Explaining his earlier lack of co-operation with the tribunal, he said: "I was concerned at the

effect these payments would have for me in the public mind." Mr Haughey paid ironic tribute to the "thorough and diligeot" international investigation into his personal finances carried out by the tribuoal

team, including probing secret oumbered bank accounts in foreign currencies held on his behalf, which had forced him to reverse his initial flat denial of

receiving the £1.3m. The tribunal's terms of reference precluded inquiries into possible paymeots to Mr Haughey from other business figures. It is restricted solely to payments made by Mr Dunne when head of Dunnes Stores.

Water firms pledge to offer free pipe repair

Nicholas Schoon

The Government claimed success for its water summit meeting yesterday, after all the water companies in England and Wales pledged to offer at least one free repair to any customer

with a leaking supply pipe.

John Prescott, the Deputy
Prime Minister, said the initiative could save over a hillion litres of water each day, but only if all customers were able to detect and report every leak.

"By interveoing with the summit we are now starting to achieve our aims and get that better deal [for customers]," said Mr Prescott, who ordered all the water companies to attend the event two mooths ago.

"When necessary, tough talk-ing does work. I believe that the water companies are heginning to show vigour, imaginatioo and enthusiasm in promoting water efficiency. They will oeed

to keep oo doing so." However, what has been agreed differs from Labour's stance during the election campaign. It said it would insist oo water companies repairing all household leaks, oot just those in the supply pipe which con-octs them to the mains. That would have cost the companies very much more.

also lowered the political temperature of government relations with the water iodustry. Yesterday, Thames, the biggest company, said it could now guarantee to get through the summer without any hosepipe or sprinkler bans.

At a press conference yesterday, Mr Prescott was pleased that many water companies now offered their customers devices to reduce the flush volumes of their lavatories, free of charge. He urged them all to do so.

But the most important work on boosting water conservation and cutting leakage still re-

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regulator Ofwat is drawing up leakage targets for all companies. And the Government is still consulting oo standards for water-using appliances and plumbing, changing the licens-ing regime for extracting water from aquifers and rivers, and on how to charge for water.

Many groups have argued that the wider use of water meters is oeeded to encourage conservation, something the Government has qualms about,

Meanwhile, a watchdog organisation representing water customers demanded companies be compelled to cut their prices after the 1999 price review by Ofwat.

Jim Gardner, chairman of Ofwat's National Consumer Council, said: "Customers want to see an immediate and substantial cut in average water bills and hills thereafter kept below the rate of inflation." But he warned that the European Commission was pushing up the price of water by promoting laws which demand companies spend more to secure cleaner tapwater, rivers and beaches. The legislation, still to be approved, would raise the average UK hill of £230 a year by about £21, he said. But there was no reasoo why water companies could oot pass on to customers efficiency savings will amount to a 10 per ceot cut.

He added that a leakage lev el from mains as high as 15 per ceot might be economically jus-tifiable, because there comes a point at which the money would be better spent oo other ways of conserving water or finding

The Water Services Association, representing nine of the biggest companies, said: "Rising standards and lower prices do not sit comfortably togeththey are oot all in Brussels."



Thinking big thoughts: Progressive Unionist Party leader David Ervine - among those giving a positive reaction to the meeting with Tony Blair

Loyalists welcome Blair assurances "If there are geouine points of clarification, theo there is no

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Loyalists last night gave a "positive response" to Tony Blair at a meeting in Downing Street after he urged them to use their influence with Loyalist paramilitaries oot to break their ceasefire in Northern Ireland. The Prime Minister assured

the leaders of the Progressive Unionist Party (PUP) and the Ulster Democratic Party (UDP), including Gary McMichael and David Ervine, that the Government would move ahead with the cross-party talks on Ulster without Sinu Fein if the IRA did not restore its ceasefire.

He defended the contacts between Mo Mowlam, the North-

ern Ireland Secretary, with Sinn Fein, in spite of protests by Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party that it had amounted to

Mr Blair told the Loyalists that Sinn Fein could not claim the Government had not tried to get them into the talks. "He met with a positive response," said a Downing Street spokes-

Loyalists said it was "make your mind up time" for the IRA reasoo why they should be answered. What we have made Defending the renewal of clear is the Prime Minister is not contacts, cut off after the killing going to be strung along on this. of two police officers by the IRA, the spokesman said: "If the

But he is pretty determined nobody is going to be able to say the British Government is out phone rings, people pick it up. All Northern Ireland Secretary] trying on this front," the Down-Mo [Mowlam] was doing was -and to her credit -being honest." ing Street spokesman said.

terday met the Northern Ireland Secretary in Belfast to press for tougher conditions on the IRA ceasefire before Sinn Fein could be admitted to the talks. The Ulster Uoiooist Party, led by A David Trimble, objected to the promise hy Mr Blair that Sinn Fein could be admitted within six weeks of an IRA ceasefire.

er. Many people are constant-ly pressing for higher standards, 'Cowboy' security firms face round-up THIS SATURDAY IN * THE INDEPENDENT **700 FREE**

Jason Bonnetto Crime Correspondent

"Cowboy" security firms and unscrupulous wheel clamping out-fits could be outlawed under proposals being considered by the Government.

Measures under examinatioo include a statutory licensing system for security guards, with penalties for firms that take on staff with criminal records. However, any changes will not be introduced for at least another 18 mooths, despite Labour's pre-election pledges to introduce oew laws immedi-

The decision to start a consultation process follows widespread coocern about the standards and control of security firms, which now employ

more guards than there are uniformed police officers. the cowboys and the cheats who besmirch the industry's

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, told the British Securi-Iodustry Associatioo io Londoo yesterday that the review would be extended to cover private wheelclampers.
"It is an extraordinary irony

that an industry which attempts to regulate the behaviour of others is subject to no regulation itself," he said.
"The result is that ... cheats

and villains are able to operate. These rogues undermine the fine reputation of the established companies who enforce effective standards and self-

regulation."
He added that statutory regulation was "the best way to ensure proper standards, to protect the public and weed out

good name". In 1995 the Commons Home Affairs Select Committee heard evidence from the police that up to 2,600 crimes a year were committed by guards. In ooe com-pany 11 of the 26 staff had criminal convictions, ranging from rape to assault. In another case cited by the police, a security firm's managing director recommended an employee for a shotgun licence even though he knew the employee had been convicted of killing his

Securicor, the security com-pany, yesterday welcomed the announcement and called for an automatic bar on any individual with a record of dishonesty or

Brown pounces to get young working

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

The Government would only have one chance to help the young unemployed off welfare and into work, Gordoo Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said last night.

He told a London dinner organised by Business in the Community and the businessbased Percent Club: "We will only have one chance.
"Indeed, if we fail the first

time, disillusionment and cynicism will prevent us being able

to mount this again."

Because of that imperative, the Chancellor said, the Govermnent was prepared to coosider radical solutions. Speaking to an audience that

included the Prince of Wales,

the pace-setting Prince's Trust Volunteers, the Chancellor said that the Government wanted to build oo existing success, oot start afresh.

That meant hreaking down harriers hetween public and private provision, using private employment agencies where relevant, and allowing grassroots organisations and officials to "rewrite the rules", if that would get results.
"We make what works our

guiding light," Mr Brown said.
"But we remember all the time, our goal is not just to take people off the atreets for six months but to make the un-

employed employable." The alternative was the threat of "exclusioo for an en-

who is president of Business in the Community, and founder of young people" from the 400,000 young people" from the 400,000 youngsters out of work.

In a direct appeal for their co-operation and support in the Welfare to Work programme, the Chancellor told his business audience: "In some of our poorest communities, one-third of all young people are doing nothing, and in some of these, there is secood geoeration unem-ployment: the culture of work destroyed."

Mr Brown also warned that was oot only a social and financial waste, but a waste of poteotial that required business and the community to work together to provide a solution.

The business dinner was the Chancellor's first official engagement with Prince Charles, who hosted the event.





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news

Britain in plea over Caroline's murderer

Michael Streeter and Lianne Kolirin

The British Government is to ask French ministers to intervene in the case of 13-year-old Caroline Dickinson, who was murdered on a school trip to

Brittany a year ago. they propose After a 90-minute meeting ter further." with the schoolgirl's parents John and Sue Dickinson, Lady Symons, the Foreign Office minister, pledged her support for the family's efforts to step



up the investigation into the murder at a youth hostel in the village of Pleine Fougeres. She said: "We will arge the French authorities to look at the way in which the murder is being investigated and to give us some clear indication of how they propose to take the mat-

At a later press conference Mr Dickinson welcomed Lady Symons's support and called for the replacement of the French examining magistrate Gerard Zaug "if necessary" to speed up the inquiry. Repeating a call for parents and children to avoid the Brittany area, where Caroline, from Launceston, Cornwall, was raped and killed a year ago this week. Mr Dickinson warned the killer could strike again,

Making clear his frustration at the lack of progress in the murder case he said: "I feel that the mentality of this individual means that he may well strike again, My only fear is that this is the only way in which he is going to be caught."

In a prepared statement from him and his estranged wife Mr Dickinson spoke mov-



One year on: John and Sue Dickinson with their local MP, Paul Tyler, centre, at yesterday's press conference

ingly of the loss of their "quiet, gentle teenager" who would always be remembered with

He said the investigation had been hampered by undue secrecy and known blunders. "A clond of controversy, now fuelled by a lack of confidence in the competence of the inves-

magistrate highlighted the major differences between the British and French legal and policing

He also referred to other unsolved murders of Britons in France, highlighting the case of Joanne Parrish, who was killed

The family and their lawyers are pushing for an extension of DNA testing in the area in the belief that the killer may well be local and want an appeal for new witnesses to come forward. Their French lawyer, Herve Rouzad-le-Boeuf, said one option was to meet the

French Minister of Justice in the

autumn if no progress had been

The family's local Liberal Democrat MP Paul Tyler, who was at the meeting, said the presence of two new governments in France and Britain offered the chance to make fresh progress. He welcomed Lady Symons's promise to take a Photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra

"close regular personal inter-est". Mr Tyler, MP for North Cornwall, said Caroline's murder and events in the following year had highlighted the lack of a proper support system for the families of victims in the UK and indicated that the government may also take action to help set up a formal network.

Sheppard departs with job demand

Kathy Marks

The Bishop of Liverpool. scourge of successive Conservative administrations, called on the Labour government to demonstrate the political will to create policies leading to full

employment.
The Right Rev David Sheppard, addressing the Church of England's General Synod for the last time before he retires in September, also warned that an emphasis on improving education was meaningless unless ob opportunities were created for school leavers

The Synod at York was debating an ecumenical report, Unemployment and the Future of Work, which was published during the election campaign in April. The report, which attacked complacency about the "evil" of unemployment, was widely interpreted as a rallying cry of support for the Labour Party by church leaders.

Dr Sheppard, who chaired the working party behind the re-port, said. "It has persuaded me that there can be enough good work for everyone. But there is a proviso, and that's that there is the political will. That's the rub, for of course there will be a cost. But we already know that there is a cost, in human despair, in the waste of God-given gifts, and in the price of benefits and ill-bealth and crime."

Elaine Appelbee, vice-chairman of the Synod's Board of Social Responsibility, said there were as vet no signs that the Government was inclined to implement the report's recommendations.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carcy, in his closing address, paid tribute to Dr Sheppard, the Church of England's most prominent and outspoken liberal. He said that the bishop, a former England cricketer who has served Liverpool for 22 years, was "one of the great prophets of the Church", and, "the scourge of all those who hold the comforting belief that excessive privilege and affluence are somehow an inevitable and essential part of the natural order".

Delegates approved the unemployment report almost

Hard fax about our epidemic of shyness

Glenda Cooper Social Affairs Correspondent

The electronic revolution, dominated by faxes and e-mails, has helped turn the problem of shyness into an epidemic, the world's first conference on the

subject was fold yesterday. The number of sufferers has: risen by a fifth in the last two decades and latest research puts the number of sby people

nce

esto

at 60 per cent of the population, compared with 40 per cent when studies began in 1972.

New technology and an impersonal business world, coupled with decline in social networks, have meant a loss of social skills, said Professor Philip Zimbardo, the keynote speaker at the conference in Cardiff and founder of the Shyness Institute in California. One study revealed that par-

ents spend only six to eight minutes a day talking to their children. Shyness had been brushed off as an unimportant

quality that children grow out of, but Professor Zimbardo warned that it was "potentially lethal", with criminals such as America's Unabomber - who waged a letter-bomb campaign against American universities being described as "almost pathologically shy".

"Although we think of shy people as passive and easily manipulated, at the same time there is a level of resentment, rage and hostility."

Levels of shyness varied worldwide. Data from Israel suggested that only 30 per cent of people described themselves as shy, compared with double that in Japan, This, said Professor Zimbardo, was due to how success and failure is perand brushed off failure, Japanese children were made to feel

responsible for lack of success.
The fear of failure, of being found out, pervaded all areas of shy people's lives, "Shy people also have sex later in life, have less diverse sex and do not describe it as a pleasurable thing," said Professor Zimbardo. San Francisco streetwalkers

ceived. Whereas Jewish parents described their typical client praised their children's success as a shy, married man. Professor Zimbardo said life

was becoming more difficult for those who had trouble communicating. "The electronic revolution of e-mails and faxes means the medium has finally become the message ... With more virtual reality overtaking real reality, ordinary skills and awkward," he told delegates.

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Europe gives the green light to Baltic

There was a time not so long ago when Tallinn lay a world away from what was described for convenience's sake as "Europe".

Even if its shops were better stocked than Moscow's, and Communist officials mouthed a slightly milder ideology, the Estonian capital was still on the dark side: a Soviet porthole with metal bars peering sur-reptitiously towards the West.

Six years after the cataclysm, fast catamarans ferry Estonians to Heisinki in an hour and a balf. Tallinn's shops are packed and the democratic experience has been enriched by the peace-ful collapse of six successive

The boundary between two worlds has shifted east. Along Russia's Baltic frontier, an iroo curtain is descending - three rows of barbed wire made in

At least the tanks are gone, but insecurity lingers. Earlier this mooth, the three Baltic Republics were turned down for membership of Nato, and oow they are banging oo the European Union's door. For Lithuania and Latvia that might still be a long wait, but the Estonians have finally been heard.



Republic, Hungary. Slovenia and Cyprus in entry talks for the European Union's first expansion into Eastern Europe. The Commission's Agenda 2000 document, adopted at a meeting of the EU executive yesterday, will be formally presented to the European Parliament in Strasbourg today.

Europe, it appears, is ready to embrace a tiny fragment of the former USSR as its own.

Estonia, be points out, was lev-el pegging ecocomically with Finland in 1940, when the USSR invaded. What it became during



ing estates, dilapidated factories

"Being admitted to the EU is Estonia's most important foreign objective" says Toomas Hendrik Ilves, the foreign minister. "We are trying to return to the development path that we were on before we were torn out



Landing on its feet: Estonia's armed forces, seen here on joint exercise with Nato, may have to wait to Join the alliance, but EU membership beckons

and potholed roads. Some of those scars are visible to this day, but more noticeable oow as a contrast. For since Estonia regained its in-dependence six years ago, the country has experienced, in the words of its government, an "economic miracle".

Back in 1992, when Estonia introduced its own currency, the krooo, inflatioo was running at 1,000 per cent. Now it's around 14 per ceot. Uoemployment is just above 4 per cent and annual growth is nearer 5 per cent and

For a visitor arriving in Tallinn after several years absence, the prosperity is astounding. There are fewer Ladas in the streets than in eastern Berlin, Elegantly-dressed men and women dash about in their shiny western cars, gripping the wheel in ooe hand and their mobile phooes in the other. The

Old Town has risen anew, its pas-

tel houses and palaces restored to their pre-war spleodour. The telephone system is among the most modern in the

large international computer manufacturers are queuing for factory space in Tallinn. Whatever Estonia may seem from Brussels, it is certainly no

The EU might, in fact, have different kind of problem with Europe's free market gurus. The fact that we don't have any agricultural subsidies is something some people in Enrope do oot like" says Mr Ilves. In its "big bang" approach to the economy, the Estonian government abolished trade tanifis

dangerous precedent. Nor is Tallinn's recipe for privatisation likely to be universally ac-claimed. The state has divested itself of almost all its property.
Even parts of the Foreign Ministry building are sublet to the Danish and German embassies - a happy symbiosis with two close allies. The outcome of its

sell-off is that practically all the

Swedish and Finnish companies hold the biggest stakes. exploiting the low wages Esto-nia offers. It is no coincidence rights abuses" against the Russ-

that unemployment rates in both Sweden and Finland are soaring. Those two countries, oevertheless, are keen to reintegrate Estonia and cash in on the mercantile spirit that is set to transform the Baltic into one of the most dynamic regions of the world. Where that leaves Russia is

difficult to see. The winds blow-

ing from Moscow are chilly. Eseconomy is oow privately owned, much of it by foreigntonian attempts to settle a border dispute, simmering since 1920, have been rebuffed, and Russia continues to make shrill noises about Tallinn's "human

ian minority. International observers have yet to verify any of the Russian allegations, but Es-

tonia in any case is endeavouring to improve the lot of its former colonial masters. The Russians of Estonia, about a third of the population, are rich beyond the imagination

of their cousins across the fence and are not likely to cause trouble. According to a poll publisbed last week, a higher proportion of them back Estonia's EU membership than Estonians themselves.

Britain and Europe, Leading article, page 13

The European Commission agreed yesterday that Estonia is evident today; crumbling house Russian crime threat

Rupert Cornwell Moscow

Tried and trusty themes like Nato enlargement, regional is-sues and the Middle East were naturally high on the ageoda. But the spotlight during Rohin Cook's talks in Moscow yesterday was on a very different topic: urgent steps to keep the ever-growing Russian Mafiya from establishing a major beachhead in Britain. The Foreign Secretary said yesterday that he had made "serious

progress" on the crime issue. Thus far, the combination of geographical separation from the Continent, tight border controls and the absence of a big emigni community has allowed Britain tu escape the fate of countries like Germany, Belgium and Austria, whose local underworlds have been largely taken over by Russian gangs -and a memorandum of understanding finalised this week is intended to help keep things

that way.
"The Mafiya," said one senior British police officer specialising in Russian organised crime, "basically looks at Britain as a pretty nice place, where you can buy nice houses and send your son to school, a kind of sanctuary which no one wants to foul up. But the warning signs are

clear. The Russian populatioo in Britain, both legal and ille-

gal, is growing, as an over-stretched Britisb visa service struggles to keep up. Meanwhile, Russian vice rings, traditionally a vehicle for infiltrating and taking over lo-cal criminal organisations, have started to spring up in Loodon

'The Mafiya looks at Britain as a pretty nice place ... a kind of sanctuary which no one wants to foul up'

and elsewhere. These people are exceptionally violent and once they gain a foothold, they expand iocredibly fast," the officer said.

This new non-military threat from Russia is a major reason why Tony Blair wants to make the fight against international crime the main topic at next year's G-8 summit in Birming-

The big dangers are drugs and moocy laundering, where the major Russian crime syn-

dicates have set their sights oo the City of London, whose big banks are a perfect "stamp of approval" for tainted funds channelled out of Russia. Uoder the memorandum, Britain would gain access to Russian

records and intelligence data. Some 5,000 gangs are reckoned to be operating in Russia. dominating entire sectors of the economy. Most of them, however, are purely domestic, and British intelligence focuses pri-marily on a "few dozen" major figures who have real international links.

A current squeeze on traffic through the Balkans has helped turn Russia into the main transit route for drugs into Europe.
Additiooally, British police say,
uoder-used former army laboratories in St Petersburg are now a prime source of the raw chemicals needed for the designer drugs fashionable in estern Europe. Britain has already seconded

Customs and Excise officer to its Moscow embassy to liaise with the local authorities, But although official Russian figures claim the crime rate declined in 1996, this probably reflects the consolidation of organised crime and its spread into "legitimate" businesses, rather than any successful counter-offensive by police and security forces. These latter are corrupt and acutely sbort of resources.

Estonians are hooked up to the Internet than the French, and farming lobby, that is a Cook acts to counter | Modern-day silk road that could help satellite slip its handcuffs

Poti - Armed with nothing but a dog-eared ootebook and a telephone, Igor Ignatev stands in his watchtower and scans the flat haze of the Black Sea. A fishing boat chugs out of port.

so be jots down its details. All perfectly normal behaviour for an official supervising a harbour, you might think—ex-cept for one detail: this is Georgian territory, and yet the badge on Mr Ignatev's khaki fatigues reveals that he is a Russian border guard.

At the base of his watchtower, lies the port of Pott. With its rusting cargo ships and weed-choked promenades, it looks like any other former Soviet harbour, which age is withering. But this town of 51,000 is enjoying a growth in strategic importance that others cannot boast. It is becoming the gateway for a transport corridor linking Europe with the Caspi-an Sea, a pathway which Geor-gia hopes will eventually be a modern variant of the ancient Silk Road that linked China with

the Mediterrancan. The catalyst for this process is neighbouring Azerbaijan. There, the international race to exploit the Caspian Sea's vast oil reserves is fast gathering pace in the capital city of Baku. Snp-plies demanded by this star-burst of economic activity are

GEORGIA DAYS travelling by rail and road. through Georgia.

Every day, a steady flow of lorries from Poti and its neighbouring port of Batumi rumble eastwards across a pot-holed highway to feed the oceds of

of the world's oil gladiators; BP is in Baku; so is Amoco, Exxon, Unocal, Total and more. But at the entrance to the corridor stand the Russians. If, from his tower, Mr Ignatev spots a ship breaking the law-for instance, by trying to sneak out of Poti without paying harbour fees-Russian coastguards will be dispatched to intercept il Six years after Georgia acquired independence, Moscow's forces are still in the republic. Russia has four military bases in Georgia, its troops stand on the

throw their weight around in their Black Sea waters. The art of diplomacy is not their strongest point. In receot months, the coastguards have shot dead a Turkish fisherman, and fired across the bows of a Greek vessel. Border guards also arrested the crew of an allegedly errant Ukrainian ship and flew them back to Moscow.

border with Turkey, and Russian patrol vessels continue to



The latter was "a scandal the greatest violation of our sovereignty", complained Peter Mamradze, chief of staff to Georgia's president, Eduard Shevardnadze. Whilst the border guards are in Georgia on contract (filling in, while Tbil-isi sets up a force of its own), there is "no legal basis for their coastguards to be in Poti, or de-

fending the coast of Georgia".
For Georgians, all this strikes
to the heart of a basic issue: is Russia trying to compromise their sovereignty? Several years ago, the geopolitical picture seemed fairly clear. Russia had supplied arms and aircraft to

Abkhazians fighting for independence from Tbilisi. Georgia was (and still is) convinced that Moscow's security services masterminded the 1995 assassinatioo attempt against Mr Shevardnadze Meddling in Georgia to keep it divided and dependent seemed to be the Kremlin strategy. Now Georgians say that Moscow bas become more

moderate. The so-called "new pragmatists" in the Yeltsin administration talk about co-operation and sharing the spoils of the Caspian oil. Yet hardliners still lurk within Russia's foreign and defence ministries, who are itching to call the shots again. A reminder of Russia's nastier impulses came in March, when one of Moscow's leading

newspapers, Nezavisimaya Gazeta published an anonymous article warning that the oil bonanza in the Caucasus meant that it was in danger of slipping from Rus-sia's grasp. Only "destabilisation in Georgia and Azerbaijan is ca-pable of preventing the consolidation of state power in these republics on an anti-Russian basis", it concluded.

Complicating the issue is the suspicioo that some elements in

Russia want to stop Georgia being selected as the route for the main export pipeline (as opposed to two already agreed smaller pipelines) which will eventually carry the bulk of Azeri oil to western markets. Moscow waots the pipe to ruo

through southern Russia. As the two countries struggle to define their post-Soviet relationship, the creation of a transport corridor linking Kiev with Thilisi, Baku and Central Asia could play a critical part. Not only will it help resurrect Georgia's economy that - according to official estimates shrank by 75 per cent during the anarchy that followed independence in 1991. It will also belp make the shaky independence of this nation of 5 million people more concrete.

No one disputes that Russia will always exert a powerful influence over Georgia - geograpby, Christianity, a shared Soviet past, military connections, and cultural forces, make that mevitable. But a new "silk • road" that does not go through. Russia could finally loosen the handcuffs that have for centuries connected Moscow and Tbilist. That is what the Georgians bope. Whether Moscow can stomach it remains to be seen.

Phil Reeves

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Moi under siege on streets of Nairobi

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Kenyan students in new clashes as pressure for reform grows

Ed O'Loughlin Nairobi

Students clashed with police loyal to Daniel arap Moi, the Kenyan President, for a second straight day in Nairobi yesterday, while opposition politicians warned of further violence if the government does not agree to basic constitutional reforms.

Early yesterday students threw rocks at police who prevented them re-entering Kenya Polytechnic, which was closed by the authorities following riots on Monday. Small groups of stu-dents continued to congregate along the street throughout the day, shadowed by truck loads of police with tear gas and riot gear.

The police made occasional charges to disperse groups of students - some of whom tried to block the busy Haile Selassie Avenue with burning debris but there was no repeat of last week's heavy-handed police ac-tion, in which police killed at least nine pro-reform demonstrators, including two students, with clubs, rubber hullets and live ammunition.

A number of arrests were made over the past two days but there were no reports of deaths or serious injuries. One student told The Independent that the use of live amorunition last week made students unwilling to push confrontation too far.

"I think many of us will go home," said Joram, a 24-yearold student of surveying. "The way the situation is around here, we are going to die if we do anything. You could say we are living in fear."

While many students said they were demonstrating in favour of constitutional reforms leading to greater political freedom, others said the riot was sparked when the college authorities reacted harshly to a student protest over academic

grievances on Monday.

According to one Western diplomat based in Nairobi, the political atmosphere is now so liners in his own entourage, Re-

tense that even relatively nonpolitical disputes can quickly swell into public protests calling for the abolition of restrictions on movement, speech and political organisation.

Supporters of reform say that last week's killings prove that President Moi is bent on using repressive colonial era laws to ensure a further extension to his 19-year rule when elections are held later this year.

While opposition politicians and church leaders continue to call for constitutional reform in advance of the elections, they have so far failed to organise any mass actions or protests to build on the public fury at last

Notoriously divided, opposi-tion parties have failed to agree even amongst themselves on what to do next. The Forum for the Restoration of Democracy in Kenya, one of the two main opposition parties, is publicly split on whether it should resist the poll or once again accept President Moi's assurances that reform is on its way.

The reformist Safina party founded by the paleontologist Richard Leakey, retains some credibility with ordinary Kenyans and foreign observers but is still officially illegal because Mr Moi's government refuses to

Yesterday Mr Leakey said that the reformist National Convention Executive Committee - a coalition of political parties, mainstream churches and NGOs - would launch an escalating series of mass actions if the government did not agree to constitutional reform. He identified the coastal city of Mombasa, Kenya's main tourist centre, as the next target for protest.

Conciliatory noises from President Moi, who has promised to begin a debate on the issue within his Kenyan African National Union party, have been contradicted by hard-



ferring to a police attack on the Anglican cathedral in Nairobi last weck, the Minister for Transport and Communica-tions, Mr Wilson Ndolo Ayah, accused the Anglican church of "engaging in criminal activities

by giving refuge to hooligans, thieves and other mischievous characters who were insulting and stoning fellow Kenyans in the name of calling for constitutional reforms.

The government is also under

strong pressure to reform from the international community. which is concerned at the growing potential for violence and at Kenya's continuing failure to Kenya's continuing failure to deal with rampant corruption.

Following last Monday's Following last Monday last Mo deal with rampant corruption.

killings the United States State Department issued an unusually strong statement deploring the government's use of "strong

colonial power and still the major political and economic influence in Kenya, has joined 21 other countries in calling for political dialogue on constitu-

tional reform. The government in Nairohi

Body blow: A student protester is dealt with harshly yesterday as President Moi faced new demands over constitutional reform Photograph: Reuters



has so far rejected the catls, but with the US and Britain at the head of 20 Western countries calling for dialogue and reform. It risks losing the aid money it needs for its day-to-day

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negotiation] may fail again. But if it succeeds, it's the real McCoy." The talks have been part of a never-ending stalemate, since the Turkish invasion of the island in 1974. Glafkos Klerides, leader of the Greek Cypriots, yesterday met Tony Blair at Downing Street. The meeting came just three days after the conclusion of UN-brokered

significant shorts

Blair meets Klerides for

peace talks on Cyprus

British officials spoke yesterday of a possible change in the wind in the peace talks on Cyprus, arguing: "[The

talks between Mr Klerides and Rauf Denktash, the Turkish Cypriot leader, in the rural resort of Troutbeck in upstate New York. A second round of talks will be held in Switzerland next month.

Spain renews fight against Eta

Spain's Interior Minister, Jaime Mayor Oreja, said yesterday that the massive protests held to condemn the slaying of a young politician by the armed group Eta had opened a new phase in the battle against the armed separatist group. Mr Oreja said his government would do all it could to isolate Eta's political arm, the Basque conlition Herri Batasuna.

Milosevic elected president Slobodan Milosevic was elected president of Yugoslavia yesterday in a parliamentary session that was organised hastily - apparently to prevent the leaders of Montenegro

from voting against him. **Euro MPs fight for allowances**

Members of the European Parliament saw off demands for a serious clampdown on their lavish allowances yesterday, agreeing reforms critics dismissed as cosmetic. However parliamentary chiefs announced that MEPs will for the first time be asked to furnish proof of travel before claiming reimbursement on flights to and from Strasbourg Katherine Butler, Strasbourg

Hitler's private secretary dies

Adolf Hitler's private secretary, Gerda Christian, has died in Düsseldorf, aged 83, Bild newspaper reported vesterday. Christian died in hospital from cancer, the newspaper said.

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Innocents facing execution on America's death rows

John Carlin Washington

Advocates of the death penalty in the United States remained unrepentant vesterday following publication of a report revealing that 69 condemned prisoners have been released from Death Row in the United States since 1973 after evidence emerged that they had been wrongfully convicted.

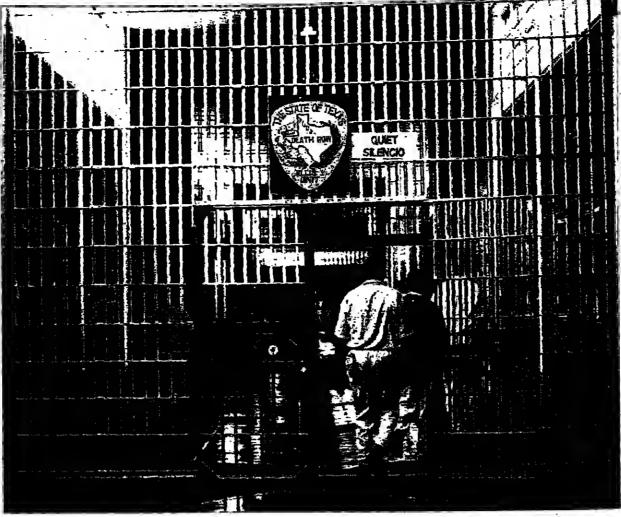
The report, released yesterday by the Washington-based Death Penalty Information Centre, warns that recent legislation approved by the Congress and President Bill Clinton to expedite the appeals process of convicted inmates and to minimise their access to legal help increases the odds that innocent people will be executed. Among the many cases cited in the report one concerns two men who were released after 10 years on Death Row even though another man confessed to the crime shortly after their conviction in 1985.

In another instance of gross miscarriage of justice, a man spent 18 years awaiting death in an Illinois prison until new evidence of his in nocence providentially unearthed by three journalism students secured his freedom in June last year. Some 6,000 people have been sen-

tenced to death in the US since 1973 which translates, in the light of the report's figures, into a rate of more than one innocent death row inmate for every bundred death sentences passed. "The rate may be considerably higher," the report said, "since extraordinary efforts are generally needed to free a death row inmate, and most inmates do not have those

extra resources available to them."
The statistical evidence suggests that at least 32 of the 3,200 inmates currently awaiting death by lethal injection, hanging or the electric chair are innocent. But scant reason exists to believe that legislation signed by President Clinton last year to cut off

TV & VIDEO



all government funding for death penalty resource centres, a system introduced under Ronald Reagan's watch to assist lawyers conduct cap-ital appeals, will be reversed soon.

America's elected leaders, responding to the public's impatience at the typically long delays between sentencing and execution, have been sing both at state and federal level for new laws that will speed up the killing rates. Indeed, enthusiastic support for the death penalty is a sine

qua non of electoral success for any candidate running for the presiden-cy and most running for Congress. A poll conducted by ABC tele-

vision to coincide with a broadcast on Monday night dedicated to the Death Penalty Information Centre's report found that 77 per cent of respondents continued to favour legal executions against 19 per cent who unequivocally did not.

Bill McCollum, the Republican head of the House of Representatives'

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Iudiciary Committee, is a proponent of capital punishment so zealous that he found motive for cheer in the report. "It shows," he said, "that the system is working quite well." In the light of the fact that 400,00 murders had been committed in the US since 1973, Mr McCollum said he was "encouraged" by statistics revealing that only 1 per cent of those sentenced to

death had been mistakenly convicted. Acknowledging that "justice is not perfect", he said such a margin

of error represented an acceptable level of risk. Mr McCollum remains unmoved having read in the report the stories of Rolando Cruz and Alejandro Hernandez, who were sentenced to death in Illinois in 1985 for the murder of a 10-year-old girl. Another man, Brian Dugan, who had already pleaded guilty to two rapes and murders, confessed to the killing through his lawyer. Yet it took 10 years for a judge to throw out the case against the two men in 1995.

on borrowed time (Photograph: Gerald Davis); (above)
Plorida's infamous electric chair - Old Sparky The fact that Hernandez, according to the court that initially convicted them, was borderline retarded never counted as a mitigating factor. Indeed, 31 offenders found to have been mentally retarded have been among the 400 executed in the US in the last two decades.

More than half of the 400 have been put to death in the past five years; pushing the US into the top ranks of the world's legal executioners alongside Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.



Israel risks peace with double killing

Robert Fisk Beirut

The Israeli-Hizbollah ceasefire in southern Lebanon was in danger of collapsing last night after Israeli artillery fire killed two more civilians - a Palestinian woman and ber son and Hizbollah fired 18 Katyusha rockets at Israeli

forces in retalization. Laiga Marmar and her son Ahmed, covered in blood, were brought into the mortuary of the Hammoud hospital in Sidon within minutes of their deaths in an orchard outside the Christian village of Barty, on the edge of the Israeli occupa-tion zone. They had been killed by one of 20 shells fired by the Israelis; Mis Marmar's 18-year old daughter was seriously

Their deaths followed a Hizboliah attack oo an armoured vehicle belonging to Israel's South Lebanon Army militia allies and the Israelis later said - correctly - that they had fired into fields, not into a village. The terms of the April 1996 trace forbid Israelis or from, or towards, civilian areas

But the farm on which the Marmars were working was

Lebanese delegates to the ceasefire committee intend to add the names of Laiga and Ahmed Marmar to that of Ahmed Sweidan, the elderly farmer killed by Israeli fleshette shells on Saturday, when the committee meets at the UN headquarters at

There are growing fears in over the past 15 months have been caused by Israeli forces. mockets over the border into Israel if the committee does not unequivocally condemn Israel for recent shelling in which at least 15 civilians have also been wounded-including a boy who lost his eye when Israeli artillery batteries retaliated for the killing of an Israeli officer 11 days ago.

Three of the 18 Katyushas fell inside Israeli yesterday. It was in just such a way that last April's israeli blitz on southern Lebanon - which cost the lives of almost 200 Lebanese civilians - began.
Almost equally ominously, Israel's "Voice of the South"

radio station, broadcasting from the occupied area, yesterday quoted the bead of the Israeli army's northern command as saying that the Hizbollah were targeting civilians while Israeli troops were showing the "utupon civilians. A similar quo tation was broadcast before the April 1996 bombardment.

The truth is that while the Hizbollah have wounded Lebanese civilians inside the occupation zone - another civilian was hurt in an attack oo the SLA yesterday - eight of the nine deaths in southern Lebanon over the past 15 months have

human life and Israel's military occupation is becoming ever of its proxy SLA mercenaries are defecting to Beirut. In one village in the Israeli occupation zone, only six of the original 32 SLA men are still working for the Israelis; the rest have fled or been killed in

Hizbollah attacks. At night, the SLA tune in to Hizbollah's radio station in the hope that it will warn them of imminent assaults. So distrustful are the Israelis of their own SLA militiamen that they imprison their local mercenaries in a room at their gun entplacements - with a guard on the door - whenever a senior Israeli officer visits the front lines. SLA men are now paid between \$500 and \$600 a mouth -but complain that they are ofmost restraint" in not firing ten paid in forged notes.

Algeria frees jailed fundamentalist leader

Paris (Reuter) — Algeria freed his boss. The authorities, durradical Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) leader Abassi Madani ers in 1994 to try to end the esterday in what diplomats termed a dramatic step but one unlikely to end violence in the North African country.

ship in Europe welcomed the move as a "positive act ... and a definite and effective contribution to solving the crisis and returning to peace and stability".

The military prosecutor's office in Blida, where Madani had been sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment in 1992,

The outlawed FIS leader-

said the measure was a "release on parole"...
"It's a dramatic move in terms of the government rela-tionship with the opposition and FIS," said a senior diplomat

in Algiers. "But it is not going to stop the violence like the bomb in Baraki . or the massacres. There's no eason to think that Madani can do that now."

The FIS leadership urged Algiers to follow Madani's release with that of his fiery deputy Ali Belhadi, jailed at the same time for 12 years, and that of "all the political prisoners". It said this was needed to prepare the climate to "allow the

return of the effective sovereignty of the Algerian people". Belhadi is widely seen as a

ing a letter to guerrillas urging them to increase attacks.

Madani's release follows an

upsurge of violence since Algeria held multi-party general elections on 5 June. Hundreds of people have been killed in attacks blamed on Muslim fun-"And the GIA has nothing to do with the FIS and it's that

group which is doing the urban bombings like that yesterday." The Armed Islamic Group

(GIA), led by Antar Zouabri, 27. is the most ruthless of the groups and is blamed by the authorities for bombings and massacres in which hundreds have died.

On Munday, a bomb in the Algiers suburb of Baraki killed 26 people and wounded more than 80, mainly women and children, Algerian newspapers said yesterday. Security forces said 21 died.

After a weekend in which two newspapers reported the massacre of 44 people, most with their throats cut, the govern-meot paper El Moudjahid said security had worsened with another massacre - this time 15 civilians - in Medea overnight

Madani, 66, was serving a 12.

threatening state security after a strike and riots preceded Alge-tia's multi-party general election planned for June 1991. In the unrest at the height of the FIS's domination of city streets in June he said: "If the

army does not withdraw we will be obliged to call a jihad (holy struggle)."
Two days later, he and Belhadi

were arrested. The poll was put off to December 1991. And after the FIS took a huge lead, the authorities cancelled the results. and a planned second found.

Just months later, amid grow ing violence, Madani and Belhad were tried and sentenced by Blida military court.

Last week Abdelkader Hachani, the man who led the FIS in the elections, walked free from jail after being given a five year sentence, covered by his period in detention. The prosecutor asked for 10 years on charges of trying to undermine

state security.

El Watan newspaper then forecast President Liamine Zeroual's government might lift the state of emergency to forge political consensus with the opposition.

Legal opposition groups have long demanded the 1992 state of emergency be lifted to calable full political activity by Algeria's 29 million-strong population.



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BIRTHS

Gianni Versace was a talented vulgarian. His clothes appealed to the type of woman - or man - who could make a Faustian deal in return for a oneway ticket to Hollywood, And Hollywood was the appropriate venue for his louche

From the mid-Eighties, in a mutually promoting symbiosis, he teamed up with the gaudier stars of film and pop music to persuade the general public that a Versace outfit automatically conveyed sexual stardom on its wearer. Could anyone - even if they had wished - have avoided seeing the catapulting into the public eye of Elizabeth Hurley in the safety-pinned dress?

Versace was the unrivalled master of sound-bite dressmaking. In an age wheo performers have to seize milli-second of fame before the world's cameras at the Oscars, the Emmy or the Cannes awards, his clothes ensured they were noticed. Loudly coloured, swagged in pinchbeck - "fool's gold" chains and medallions stamped with Medusas' heads, and cantilevered into improbable hourglass forms, the clothes yelled

Versace boasted that he took inspiration from the prostitutes in the vicinity of his ebildhood home in Reggio di Calabria, in southern Italy. He liked to explain that he was offering "fem-ininity" back to women, but he clearly confused Availability with Allure, and the Sexual with the Sensual.

Born of humble origins in 1946, he was apprenticed at his mother's knee, for she ran up outfits for the locals. Having moved to Milan, in 1973 he began freelance designing for the prominent ready-to-wear labels Callaghan and Genny before launching his eponymous label in 1978.

eace

An adept self-promoter, he immediately employed Richard Avedon to photo-graph Brooke Shields, Janice Dickenson, Kim Alexis, Jerry Hall and Gia - the su-permodels of their time - in

Mariuccia Mandelli of Krizia. Gianfranco Ferre, and the dubbed "neo-couture", for it Missonis, put Milan on the international fashion map, ren-dering Rome, the traditional centre of Italian fashion, obsolete.

This handful of designers was responsible for Italy's second post-war miracle; they built up their country's ready-towear to become its premier

industry. In collaboration with Italian textile manufacturers and Milanese fashion editors who pioneered the quid pro quo editorial pages for advertising revenue - these designers, in a mere 10 years, reached a global buying public. By under-scoriog their brand with product placement in blockbuster films, their commercial success was assured.

Versace's clothes were con-sisteotly clean-cut, unromantic and sporty. Initially he restyled hasic sports clothes - bomber jackets, jeans, jodphurs - in hux-urious materials, such as silk, leather and suede.

These casual shapes were flatteringly cut and were well suited to the raunchier working woman who emerged from the barricades of feminism to march hand in hand with her Barbie Doll sister towards flaunted and rootless materialism. Alternatively, he offered a pastiche of Thirties and Fornes dressing, epitomised by Charlotte Rampling's coldly amoral character in Luchino Visconti's film The Damned

Versace had talent. He was an adept cutter, could tailor with skill and possessed a elever and experimental sense of cloth. Keen to harness science, he was an eager exponent of the latest technology. In 1982, inspired by the alu-

minium chainmail gloves used in abattoirs, he introduced an aluminium mesh which he draped across the body. Its sweet liquefaction gave the appearance of mercury dripping, imperceptibly slowly, over a woman's curves. It was an exquisite use of a modern material for evening wear.

ousted the needle and thread. The result, alternate strips of leather and rubber that had the appearance of undulating corrugated iron, was made into biker's jackets and fitted anoraks, that were hard-hitting but soft to the touch.

Versace surrounded himself with family. His brother Santo was his partner, his sister Donatella, a perma-tanned, bottle blonde, was his muse and latterly co-designer. It is common knowledge that she is principally responsible for the diffusion lines Versus and Instante which he launched in the Nineties. Donatella's profile was raised, it was said, when it was rumoured that he was HIV positive.

Visiting his headquarters in Milan reminded one of the antiseptic presentation of the classical world favoured by the Getty Museum in Los Angeles. Classical renditions of the male torso stood in frigid white alcoves, importantly lit so as to emphasise the assumed refine-ment and scholarship of their

Lest one failed to appreciate his grasp of art history - he loved to be referred to as a "Renaissanee Man" - one was sooo plied with files of "background material" on his show homes on Lake Como and in Mismi, where he housed his art collections. A frenzy of promotional zeal

announced the opening of Ver-sace's Old Bond Street shop in London, in the middle of the recent recession. He pioneered the recent fad for fashion designers requisinoning the old noble buildings that had once housed "Old Masters", perhaps intending to underscore their assumption that they were the new masters of art. It was said the building cost £11m to "restore". If Hollywood were to make a film about Caligula, surely the setting should be this shop.

At the time his look had

reached the apogee of bawdi-ness which was laughingly marketed as "couture" and an arresting advertising cam-paign. Versace, along with his bitter rival Giorgio Armani, Japan. he used the laser to hems swung just short of lace-

fuse rubber to pelts. This was topped stockings, were worn with Louis-heeled mules and Louis-Quinze-style curly tresses - proof that he had a fine appreciation of French ancien régime culture.

Though the look was promoted on the backs of supermodels, it tended to be worn by those women who could afford a few thousand for these little nothings, namely ageing media tycoons. Their men were dressed like benchmen in black shirts, black boots and black suits all swagged with gilt gew-gaws. Similarly dressed, Gianni Versace and his band of eohorts hijacked Sting and Trudie Styler's country wedding in 1992. By the Nineries Versace and

his band of blackshirts were in cahoots with a triumvirate that was to dominate fashion: Richard Avedon, the image manipulator, Naomi, Christy and Claudia, the image dolls. and various glossy magazine editors, the image purveyors. They created an image that could be read at 50 paces from a news-stand or street hoarding: an image which served the industry but not the reader. When editors such as Suzy Menkes criticised, they were hanned

In recent seasons, though his look softened, it could not wrench itself from the boudoir. Customers were dressed in lingerie satin and lace cut on the bias. Versace liked to claim that this was countre; it was merely a ham-fisted rerun of the refined techniques of Grès, Augustabernard and Vionnet of the 1930s.

Gianni Versace was truly a designer of his time. It is little wonder, in an age when beauty is judged by the configuration of dots on a screen and glanced fleetingly as the viewer surfs through the channels, that dayglo colours, more gold than Midas could have hoarded, and pastiches of call-girl gear, should attract both attention and custom.

Gianni Versace, fashion designer: born Reggio di Calabria, Italy 2 December 1946; died Miami Beach, Florida 15 July



Versace the "Reneissance Man"; an adept cutter and tallor with a clever sense of cloth; at Covent Garden, 1990 Photograph: Herbie Knott

Duffield: 'Typical signalman. Ordered us all about. But we adored him'

Sometimes one can imagine real though they are - of manone knows a man well, and then sector of his life. For two decades, 1962-82, I had a working and friendly relationship with Dick Duffield in his capacity as joint manager of the West Lothian Co-operative Society. Prompted only by the Falklands War, and inevitable talk of the role of submariners. did Duffield reveal that for two years he had himself been a submariner in the most per-

With little of the sophisticated equipment of the 1980s, Duffield and his mates had risked their lives, time and again, on active service off the Norwegian coast, and in the icy waters of the Arctic, in defence of the convoys carrying vital sup-plies to Murmansk. As he wry-ly observed to me, "Yes, life in a submarine off the North Cape in wartime conditions does put the trials and tribulations -

ilous of conditions.

aging branches of the Co-opdiscover by chance that modesty erative Wholesale Society into submarines were 200 feet by 16 in a convoy which she encountered bidden an entire erative Wholesale Society into submarines were 200 feet by 16 in a convoy which she encountered of Bodo, south of Naryik.

South Normanton in Derbyshire, into a family working in the retail trade, and attended Normanton Parish School. Volunteering for the Navy in 1941, as soon as he was eligible, he saw service in destroyers in the Mediterranean, Gibraltar, and off the West African coast, in the protection of the landings of the First Army.
Lithe and small of stature,

Duffield volunteered for the demanding and dangerous life of a submariner in the spring of 1943. He joined an old American-built submarine, H44, as signalman to the commander, Lt (now Lt-Cdr) Rawdon Bannar-Martin DSC.

When Bannar-Martin was posted in June 1943, as the first captain of the newly-commissioned 545-ton HMS Viking, of his great history The War at

Dick Duffield was born in three-inch "pop" gun, and four but in the Arctic Circle. Three onth Normanton in Der- torpedo-tubes, with 16 torpe- years earlier, it was up the does in all

Dick Duffield

Commander Barmar-Martin recollects: "Dick was a damn good chap. He gave totally loyal and very efficient service in Viking from June 1943 until May 1945. Despite severe bouts of sca-sickness, he was ever determined to receive and tap out his signals". (Charlie Askew, a fellow crew member on the Viking, said of him: "Typical signalman. Ordered us all around. But we adored him.")

Bannar-Martin told me that commander and signalman had a special relationship in submarines of that era, since one opened the batch, and the other immediately followed. The naval historian Captain

S.W. Roskill in the third volume built by Vickers Armstroog at Sea (1961), records that on 14

Barrow, he asked for Duffield October 1943, Viking sank a to go with him. The "V" class 1,300-ton ship (The Standard) Bodo fjord that the 30,600-ton

> during the evacuation from Narvik. Conscious that the German escorts might well have sunk Viking with depth-charges, Duffield remained full of compassion for any sailor, German or of other nationality, cata-

battleship Warspite had gone

During a brief stay at the Campbelltown base in Argyll-shire in December 1943. Duffield married Wren Jenny MeNish, who was based in Machrihanish at the time: they were to be extremely happily married and supportive to one another for 54 years.
While Duffield recovered

pulted into the sea.

from a motor-bike accident shortly after being demobbed, she returned to service on the

Keir estate at Thornhill, Dumfriesshire.

ing promoted to Thomas Carlyle's village at Ecclefechan, and then the highest village in Scotland, Warnlockhead, with its unique (and well-preserved) lead-miners' library.
Duffield steeped himself in

local history, wherever he worked, and like many dedi-cated people in the Co-op Movement of the day, he was widely and well read. Promoted as manager in

Carstairs, he came to Broxburn, the heart of the shaleoil industry, in 1962. Working in harmonious tandem with the late George Brown, manager of the Bathgate Co-op Society, I witnessed at first hand how Duffield and his partner revived an ailing organisation, and cothused a

down-hearted staff. He led by example of hard work and care for the cus-

tomer. Such dedication is a massive service to a communi-Recovered, Duffield got a job ty such as West Lothian.

voted much time to helping organise the Suhmariner and Comrades Association. One of his last successes was to see a stooe memorial erected, and a joint service beld in

memory of HMS Untamed. built in 1942 by Vickers Armstrong on the Tyne, as P58, and sunk while on trials with all hands (later salved and renamed Vitality); and HMS Vandal, ex P64, sister-ship of liking, wrecked mysteriously in the Firth of Clyde in 1943.

Tam Dalyell

Richard Arthur Duffield, submariner signalman, grocer: born South Normanton, Derbyshire 21 October 1923; joint manager, West Lothian Co-operative Society 1963-88; married 1943 Janet McNish (two sons, two daughters); died Livingston, West Lodi-ian 20 June 1997.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS

WESE: Ruchel, Andrew and Jemima are delighted to announce the birth of Benjamin Andrew on Wednesday 9 July 1997. July 1907.
WELLS: Tom, Jake, Charlie and Dad
are over the moon at the arrival of tharry Arthur, on 14 July, completing
the five-a-side line-up. Played, Muml

LITTHAUER: Ernst Karl, OBE, Died LITTHAUER: Ernst Karl, OBE. Died 10 July 1997, in his skeep, aged St. after i long illness bravely borne. Will be sadly missed by his family and his many triends. Funeral to take place on Wednesday 23 July at Lodge Hill Crematurium. Burmingham, at 2 July in No flowers please, donations to 51 Mary 4 Hospice, 176 Raddebarn Road. Selly Park. Birmingham R. 27 July 1997.

R24 7DA.

WADSWORTH: Jane Wadsworth, died peracefully at home, on 12 July, after a brace struggle against illness. She is greath mused by a wide community of relations, friends and colleagues in medical research. A much-loved daughter, mother and grandmother, she leaves Emma und farty, her children, Barbara Arnott, her mother, and John McEwan, her parties by an years of grace and hapher mother, and John McEwan, her partner for all years of grace and hap-piness. No thwere please, but dona-tions to cancer research or cancer care chartnes. Family funeral on 18 July and valedictory gathering in early Auhumn.

Announcements for Gazette BIKLESS, 14ARELAGES & DEATHS should be event in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Calary Wharf, London E14 SDL, lefephrated to 6171-293 2012 or fixed to phrated to 6171-293 2012 or fixed to 10171-283 2016, and are charged at \$6.50 to 171-283 2016, and are charged at \$6.50 to 171-284 2016, and are charged at £10 to 171-284 and the IVAT extra). DTHER Gazette and non-concentrate must be submitted in writing for faved and are charged at £10 a fire, VAT extra. Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS should be

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. J. Cockshott and Miss G. A. Ellis

The engagement is announced be-tween David, son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Cockshott, of Broadstairs, Kent, and Gillian, twin daughter of the late Mr Richard Ellis and of Mrs

Birthdays

Professor Anita Brookner, art historian and novelist, 59; Mr Alan Campbell-Johnson, public relations consultant, 84; Mr Phillip Carrick. cricketer, 45; Mrs Margaret Court, tennis player, 55; Mr Alan Donnely, MEP, 40; Mr Frank Field MP, Minister for Social Security and Welfare Reform, 55: Professor Sir Hugh Ford, mechanical engineer, 84; Sir luho Freeland QC, former legal adviser. Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 70; Sir Charles Graham Bt, former Lord-Lieutenant of Combria, 78, Mr Brian Howard, former deputy chairman, Marks & Spencer, 71; Miss Shirley Hughes, author and il-lustrator. 70: Baroness Llewelyn-Davies of Hastoe, Deputy Speaker, House of Lords, 82; The Ven Dr Harold Lockley, former Archdeacon of Loughborough, 81; Mr Thomas Megahy, MEP, 68; Mr Edward Miller, former Moster of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, 82: Sir Michael Morland, High Court judge, 68; Lord Prentice, former government minister, 74: Professor Sir Philip

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Randle, biochemist, 71; General Bernard Rogers, former Supreme Al-bed Commander, Europe. 76; Mr Tom Rosenthal, publisher, 62; Mr

John Warr, former president, MCC, 70; Miss Diana Warwick, trade union leader, 52; Sir George Young MP, former Transport Secretary, 56; Mr Pinchas Zukerman, violinist, 49.

Anniversaries

Births: Andrea del Sarto (Andrea Domenico d'Agnolò di Francesco), peinter, 1486; Sir Joshua Reynolds, painter, 1723; Mary Baker Eddy, founder of the Church of Christ, Scientist, 1821; Roald Amundsen, Polar explorer, 1872; Ginger Rogers (Virginia Katherine McMath), actress and dancer, 1911. Deaths: Anne of Cleves, fourth wife of Henry VIII, 1557; Josiah Spode, potter, 1827; Ed-mond-Louis Antoine Huot de Goncourt, novelist, 1896; Joseph Hilaire Belloc, author, 1953. On this day: the Muslim Era began when Muhammad began his flight from Mecca to Medina (The Helira), 622; the Tsar of Russia (Nicholas II) and all his family were murdered by Bolsheviks at Ekateriphurg, 1918; the world's first parking meters were installed, in Oklahoma City, 1935; the first atomic test bomb was emboded at Los Alamos, New Mexico, 1945: the Bill to abolish the Greater London Council received Royal Assent, 1985. Theay is the Feast Day of St Athenogenes, St Eustathius of Antioch, St Fulrad, St Helier, St Mary

Magdalen Postel, St Reineldis

Highgrow House, Tethury, Gloocestershire. The Princess Birgul, Patron, SENSE - The National Doublind and Rubella Astociation, waits Group House, Northfield, Erminghent and as Pranders, Save the Children Fund, waits Wood End Family Project, Coventry, and opens the new offices of Central Belevation Studios. Bannangham: Princess Margares attends a garden pury to celebrate the 18th montreast of the Real Society for the Redief of Indigent Gentlewomen of Scotland, at the Polance of Helymondhotte. The Dantess of Gloscouter, Depthy President, with the East of England Agreethurd's Society Stave, Peters of September 1988.

Lectures

National Gallery: James Heard, "In the Family (iii): Edouard Manet and Berthe Morisot"; Tamar Garb, Seurat: powder and paint", 6.30pm

"Secrati powder and paint", 6.30pm (tickets required).
Victoria and Albert Museum: Caroline Rimell, "Blue and White Ceramics (ii)", 2.30pm.
Tate Gallery: Rachel Barnes, "Henry Tate's Gift", 1pm.
British Museum: Beth McKillop, "Korean Books and manuscripts", 1.15pm. 1.15pm.

Luncheons

Glovers' Company Mr Michael Down, Master, Wor-shipful Company of Glovers of London, presided at a huncheon held yesterday at Grocers' Hall, London EC2. Baroness Thatcher, accompsnied by Sir Denis Thatcher Bt, was the principal guest.

Royal Society of Medicine

Sir Christopher Paine, President, Royal Society of Medicine, present-ed Diplomas of Honorary Fellowship to Lady Justice Butler-Siess, Sur Kenneth Calman, Mr M.A.R. Freeman, Professor L. Isherwood and Professor L. Symon at a ceremony held yesterday at the Royal Society of Medicine, London WI. The society's Gold Medal was presented to Professor Sir Richard Doll. A reception and dinner were held afterwards.

surbarough. The Dake of Kent taken the tainer at the Royal Rournauent. Rarks Count Enhistion Centre, London SW., Princera Alexandra, Pre-idens, the British School at Rome, attends a pri-vate view of the praintings of Sir Thomas Mountington at the Fine Ant Society, London W1.

Changing of the Guard
The Household Caraby Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Borse Guards, Hang, let Returnes Scotz Carabs necums the Queen's Execut, at Rackingham Philose, LLTMm, band provided by the Coldstream Courds.

Police entitled to warn about paedophiles LAW REPORT

North Wales Police and ors, ex parte AB and agor, Queen's Benck Divisional Court (Lord Bingham, Lord Chief Justice and Mr Justice Buston) 10 July 1997 A police policy under which in-

formation was disclosed to a caravan site owner about the presence of convicted paedophiles on his site was not unlawful. A general policy of disclosure could not, however be justified. NACRO. The Divisional Court dis-

missed the application of AB and his wife CD for judicial re-view of the policy of the North Wales Police ("NWP") in relation to the release of information about paedophiles in their area, and of the decision of the Wrexham police on 27 March 1997 to inform the owner of a local caravan site of the applicants' presence at the

The applicants had been released from prison in July 1996 after serving sentences for sexual offences involving children. They had attempted to settle in Northumberland and in Colwyn Bay, but had been forced to leave both areas after adverse publicity in local newspapers and angry responses from neighbours. They bought a caravan and moved on to a site near Wrexham in October 1996.

In March 1977, having been informed of the applicants' meetings it was decided that the prevention or detection of history by the local police, the the site owner should be in-

16 July 1997

plicants to leave. Stephen Solley QC and Ionathan Crystal (Michael Pundon, Newcastleupon-Tyne) for the applicants; Presiley Baxendale QC and Pushpinder Saini (Police Solienor) for NWP; James Eadie (Treasury Solicitors for the Secretary, Michael Douglas QC (Eversheds, Birminghani) for

Lord Bingham CJ said that in January 1997 the NWP had received a copy of a report from the Northumbria Police, the purpose of which was to alert recipients to the danger which the applicants were thought to present to children and vulnerable adults within the community where they settled, whom it was thought they would target and procure for sexual abuse. It was important to record that the applicants strongly challenged a number of im-

portant factual statements in the report. A member of the NWP Child Protection Team was concerned at the risk the applicants might present if they remained at the caravan site during the Easter holidays when a large number of young ehildren were expected to he there. Following a number of

owner of the site told the ap- formed of the applicants' background. There had been serious cooceru in North Wales since the end of 1995 at the risk of re-

offending by convicted pae-dophiles following release from prison, and a policy was formulated to deal with its response to such a situation. The policy provided for disclosure, on a oeed to know basis, of information which was believed to be necessary for the protection of potential victims of crime. Most of the policy was directed to the release of information to schools and education authorities.

The present case illustrated. in an acute way, the tension which might arise between the interests of a former sex offender and the interests of

the community. li was submitted for the respondents that a policy adopted by the police to guide its conduct when problems arose on the release of a convicted paedophile into the community should observe three important principles; there was a general principle that information should not be disclosed; there was a strong public interest in ensuring that police were able to disclose information about offenders where necessary for

young people; and each case must be considered carefully on its particular facts.

Those principles seemed to he consistent with the statutory policy expressed in section 28(1) of the Data Protection Act 1984 and with the policy recognised by the court in R v Brown (Gregory) [1994] QB 547 and Hellewell v Chief Constable of Derbyshire [1995] 1 WLR 804. Judged against those tests, the policy adopted by the NWP was not open to legal challenge.

Although the policy and conduct of the NWP in the present case fell well within the bounds of legality, the applicants had drawn attention to a pressing social problem. It was not acceptable that those who had undergone the lawful punishment imposed by the courts sould be the subject of intimidation and private vengeance, harried from parish to parish like paupers under the nld Poor Law, It was not only in their interest but in the interest of society as a whnle that they should be enabled to live normal lives. While the risk of repeat ofending might in some circumstances justify a very limited measure of official disclosure, a general policy of disclosure could never he justified, and the media should be slow to obstruct the rehahilitation of ex-offenders who had not offended again and were seriously bent on reform.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister



Versace: very sexy

The essence of many great designers can be captured in one word: 'elegant' for example, or 'radical' or 'startling'. In the case of Gianni Versace the word is 'sexy' – not subtly sexy or surprisingly sexy but blatantly, gloriously, ravishingly sexy. Only an Italian could have done it.

By Tamsin Blanchard

ithout Gianni Versace, fashion as we know it would be very different. His clothes, and who was wearing them, made oews. More than his cootributions to the wardrobe of Elizabeth Hurley, what the King of Glitz did for fashioo is weld together high fashioo with the

very fabric of popular culture. He is responsible for the dressing of Hollywood stars at the Academy awards, of rock stars on tour, of cultivating the public Hello! lifestyle of the rich and famous and inviting his friends, be they David Bowie and Imao, his star photographer, Richard Avedon, Elton, Sting or Madonna to spend time with him oo vacatioo at his Miami home.

Without Versace, we would oot have the cult of the supermodel, the Eighties catwalk stars who became celebrity clothes horses photographed wherever they went in the unmistakeable siren dresses that were the designer's trademark. It is impossible to imagine a fashioo world without Versace. Over the past 20 years, he has been a dynamo in cootemporary fashion. You either hated his clothes or you loved them. Whether you wore the safety-pinned dress, sat on the Medusa head printed cushions or wore the rip-off

Versace sunglasses, or bought the jeans, you know the designer's look with your eyes closed.

Irooically, the Eighties, which were Versace's shining years, are oow in vogue again. How were we to know that last Sunday's haute couture show for autumn/winter 98 in the Ritz was to be his last? The reactions to the collection were mixed. He had made a statement as only Versace can, that razer-sharp shoulders, thigh-high skirts and hard-edged power-dressing were The Look again. His vision of couture was at times vulgar, and always in your face.

Versace traded oo sex, and made oo bones about it. The womeo who wore his dresses looked instantly fabulous, as though they were the life and soul of the party. And usu-ally, wherever there was Versace in person or frock, there was cham-

pagne, caviar, gloss and glamour. While designers have long looked to the street for inspiration, Versace delved deeper, into the murky depths of the streetwalker herself. Divice Brown and her hooker friends were closer to Versace than the closeted world of Elizabeth Hurley. His mother made him cover his eyes as a child when he passed by the local brothel, and it only served to whet his appetite. Richard Martin, curator of the Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum in New York, who worked with Versace on his book Without Ties, said last night: "Sexiness is key in Versace's work. He took déclassé pornography and turned it into high style. His sexuality was com-pletely unabashed. He's a great figure in fashion."

Versace was born in 51 years ago in Reggio-Calabria. His family has always been as tightly knit as his business, with brother Santo and sister Donatella in close caboots. His first perfume, launched in 1981, was named Donna, after his sister. She oow designs the diffusioo label, Versus, which shows in New York in the true spirit of Versace, with a whole host of celebrities and music

In 1972, Gianni began designing. and Callaghan. He set up his own label in 1978, ready and raring to go for the high-powered glamour years of the Eighties. Along with Mugler and Mootana in Paris, Versace rejuvenated the Italian fashioo scene of

Rex Features, Mario Testino

the late Seventies. He will be most remembered for the signature clashing prints and psychedelic patterns that used baroque imagery from South Beach to the Italian Renaissance and were copied from Bangkok to Top Shop. Then there was the recurring theme of bondage that manifested itself in leather bustiers, tiny buckles, and dresses that can only be described as deeply kinky. There was the chain mail, used in metallic pastels that acted like living, moving disco balls, just perfect for the Euro trash and their etset lifestyles.

It was not until spring/summer 1990 that Versace showed his first haute couture collection. Whether or oot it was couture in the realsense of the word was always up for debate. He caused controversy by using PVC to make shower-curtain ballgowns and by introducing decidedly un-cooture fabrics like denim to his Atelier line. But it rejuvenated haute couture as much as Galliano and McQueen have done now. He brought to Paris a younger, hipper client, and the paparazzi were always guaranteed a star entrance to the veoce at the Ritz Hotel, Prince, Hurley, Elton, Jon Bon Jovi, Sylvester Stallone. In the early Nineties in particular, the froot row and the party afterwards would be solid with celebrities.

Love his style or hate it. Versace's death marks the end of a unique style. At times, Versace has dominated world fashion, from high fashion to high street. As news spread around the fashion world yesterday, the most commoo life without the Italian maestro. At British Vogue, editors were shocked. Lisa Armstrong, fashion features director, said, "he was one of the top five designers of the world. It's



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March 40 Company

face a profession of the con-起据你只见。 Mark Jane describing participations Below with the control Baskett Long and Managara and the second Establication in a Maria de la companya Barre to the state of the conded patternormen er e Education in the Man Land Contract Month of the section

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Dresser of the stars the girls. As well as his mature clientele, the top models were among his biggest fans. Versace turned them into everything from overgrown school pupils to brazen sirens, gladiators and strumpets, and they loved him for it (much better than having to look

This froot row picture only tells half of the story. Hugh Grant, Elizabeth Hurley, Patsy Kensit and Meg Matthews stare in raptures as the most out-rageous of supermodels, Naomi Campbell, struts her stuff at Gianni Versace's ready-to-wear show in March. That Versace could attract superstars and celebrities was one his greatest coups: his clothes intentionally recked of sex, power, money, and glamour in equal, not ascending, order and have done since the mid-Eighties when dressing for success was as important as breathing. If Elizabeth Hurley had not worn That Dress, would she be the star she is today? Everyone knew where the dress had come

from at first sight, but they still had to ask, "Who's that girl?" This speaks for itself. Versace knew how to make women feel like

stars, and men like studs. He described his

clothes as Star Clothes. They said "Look at me. Lust after me." Needless to say, every-

thing the Versace family did seemed not only covered in gilt, but it created a goldeo lifestyle around the brand and the people

Who else other than Versace could have encouraged Eltoo John to pose in a lacy negligee dress (hairy legs and all) to be photographed by Richard Avedon. And no other designer could have feasibly encouraged Madonna, Prince and Jon Bon Jovi to model in his hefty seasonal catalogues. Other fans included the Princess of Wales, Joan Collins, Ivana Trump, Sting and Trudi Styler (for whom Versace designed matching wedding clothes), Bruce Springsteen

Ton Spelling, and Ivanka Trump, who wore Versus, a line conceived by Gianni and rus. by his sister Donatella. Surprisingly, Versace launched his hante conture, an exercise which is both a creation for and haven of celebrities, in 1990, 12 years after launching his ready-towear line. One wonders what took him so long. Sadly for Elion John, a great friend and loyal fan, he missed Versace's last conture but Demi

grumpy and minimalist at the next show). The same can be said for the younger generation of celebs, such as Donovan Leitch.

Moore, Leonardo DiCaprio, Rupert Evenetr and Gabriel Byrne had the pleasure. Melanie Rickey



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Britain's chance to be at the heart of a new Europe

the expansion of the European nature of the EU and the constellation Union is good for Europe and of interests within it. good for the applicant countries. If the Treaty of Rome was, symbolically, the real end of the Second World War then the opening of negotiations between the EU and Poland, the Czech Republic and other eastern countries will represent the culmination of the Versailles Conference at the end of the First World War, offering them the chance to join the western world and grow in peace and prosperity as full nations. One of the beauties and paradoxes of European union is that it is a means of realising nationhood: for Poland and others, joining Europe could be a way of peacefully realising national aspirations suppressed for so

long by Soviet occupation.
The Agenda 2000 document expected from the European Commission today is barely even the first shot in what necessarily will be a lengthy campaign. The first tranche of applicants has to be approved at the summit in Luxemburg at the end of the year. After that, how long will it take to settle terms and revamp the governance of the EU? Yet already the process of admitting new members has forced the anti-expansionists to show their hand. For this is not just an exercise in assessing the openness of Polish markets or the liberalisation of Hungarian financial institutions, important though those are; it inevitably addresses the very

That is why the bid by the Poles. Slovenes, Czechs, Huogarians, Estonians and (Greek) Cypriots is, in princi-ple, so welcome. It forces us to examine the architecture of this organisation - the capacity of the Commission, the nature of voting in a ministerial coun-cil expanding from a membership of 15 to 21, the problem of language and, especially, the question of European democracy.

The Common Agricultural Policy was created in the 1950s, a set of tradeoffs between manufacturing and agricultural interests in France and Germany. That it has survived the expansion of the community created by the Treaty of Rome in 1956 is a tribute to inertia, also to the weakness of the British hargaining positioo in the 1970s. That it has preserved a French landscape that delights foreign tourists and has improved the general temperament of our island neighbours by making many Irish farmers rich are incidental benefits - which do not at all excuse its system of subsidies. That the Americans. for all their claims to be holier than thou in market matters, also subsidise their farmers is neither here nor there. The CAP is an affront. There is no possibility that its henefits could be extended to Polish agriculture (to do so would wreck EU budgets for decades). Let the Poles in and the CAP be removed.



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Chancellor Kohl, speaking for the forward Europeans, bas argued that it is possible to have both integration and expansion - he sent a message the other day to the French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin encouraging him to "deepen European integration". But this won't wash. A union of 21 might work as a loose and rather haggy free trading area within which certain directives sought to establish reasonable equivalences in terms of work practices and the environment (and how long would it take to get to today's position with the 15, in a union of 21?) But a union of 21 integrated in the way

Chancellor Kohl envisages is not within the realm of practical politics for at least the first three decades of the new century. For British consumers to have access to Estonian timber without tariffs and for British banks to set up shop in Tallinn sounds like a way of enhancing well-being on both sides. But for British and Estonian MEPs to go to Strasbourg and pretend they are part of a single political community, its legitimacy willed by voters in the respective countries - that day is necessarily a long way off.

The enthusiasm of the applicant countries is a recognition that they have

no destiny other than to embed their democracies within an essentially "western" framework. But goodwill is no substitute for institutional re-engino substitute for institutional re-engineering. One of the risks of this process of application and negotiation is that expectations are raised high. It may be a long time before, say, the Czechs are able to accept the directives affecting the environment. The height of the barriers to entry is a practical matter, but it is also bound up with the question of whether the EU is a fixed, juridical thing, or an entity in a constant state of negotiation and renegotiation. The creation of a common currency suggests the former. Can, then, the EU move forward as a plural association, with one group closely bound together, sharing the same money, while another group (including Britain?) jogs along In an ideal world all these questions

would receive cut and dried answers before the next stage was broached – the Commission would set out a blue-print for institutional reform before negotiations with the aspirants began. But one of the virtues of the European Community/Union has been its empirical nature, the way it has grown like Topsy. Confronting the former Soviet satellites and Cyprus will be another occasion for the EU to refine and redefine itself in situ. But that will not happen without positive statesmanship from existing members. In present

political circumstances that does not look likely to come from the French and the Germans, wedded as they are to the project of monetary union and what increasingly looks like an anachronistic vision of Europe's coming together. Not for the first time, an opportunity presents itself for the British to be at Europe's heart.

The cap that fits Labour

The new intake of Labour MPs, the I most chaperoned, monitored, instructed and badgered hunch of House of Commons recruits ever, have now been given advice by party apparatchiks on conducting garden parties, as a way of ingratiating themselves with supporters in their constituencies. Most of it is common sense, though Millbank neglects the crucial topic of what you do with a garden full of guests if it starts to pour - which, given what happened yesterday, St Swithin's day, it may well do. And what should women guests wear on their heads? Attending a do on the invitation of HM the Queen, there is no doubt that something big, yellow and trimmed is in order. Perhaps these days a "Labour" logo haseball cap would be appropriate, rather than a bright red beret and bandanna.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

Cost of gene patenting will hit patients

Sir: Alastair Kent (letter, 15 July) states that the EU directive on gene patenting "is a significant clarification over the present position". The tabled directive, is not patentable, also states that gene may constitute a patentable

Actual genes or gene sequences used in therapy. However, work with identified genes will lead to the design and production of new small molecules which will be body, a delivery system or vector needs to be developed. As these also would be patentable inventions, why patent the gene

new molecule it does not gain any reward from it until it can demonstrate a use for it. There is, therefore, real incentive to develop a treatment, as the molecule itself has no value without it. A gene, however, can he tested for, and as such the discovery of a gene immediately gives it a value. If a company can earn money from a discovery, is there a real incentive to develop a

In the future genetic tests for heart disease and breast cancer may involve the testing of 15 or 15 separate royalties to be paid, and thus make genetic testing much more expensive and risk will be less attainable. The

NHS will also have 10 pay out for the administrative costs of negotiating a separate deal with every gene patent holder, as well as the legal costs of any patent challence.

to be encouraged to invest in genetic research, but let us get the directive right. We don't need a broadly interpretable patent directive which will allow effective monopoly of research on particular genes and cost the NHS unnecessary money. Why not get the wording right to mean that companies can benefit from gene discoveries only if they make a tuly inventive step such as the uevelopment of a therapy (which will incur real development costs). Let us hope that MEPs vote for amendments which really tighten up the interpretation of this directive. Dr GARETH EVANS

Consultant in Medical Genetics Central Manchester Healthcare

Sir: Adam Hedgecoe's assertion (letter, 15 July) that gene patents cover "just chemicals" is like saying that Shakespeare is "just letters". Rather it is the information (the "sequence") carried within these genes that is actually being patented. We all carry this information, and it is part of what we are as living organisms. PHILLIP LORD Edinburgh

although stating in paragraph one that the simple discovery of a gene technical processes that isolate the invention. This amounts to the fact that genes are patentable.

in isolation will probably never be useful therapies. These in themselves would be patentable. If a gene is to be delivered to the

If a biotech company creates a

therapy?
As things stand in the directive, licence fees and royalties will have to he paid on all patented genes. more genes each. This will mean inaccessible. The economic and patient henefits of targeting preventive and screening strategies on those really at high

Biomedical companies do need

prepared for what?" (14 July). Ms Toynbee's views on the priorities to be accorded to defence on the one hand, and social security, the NHS and education on the other, are well known. Those views may perhaps be correct - although I do not think so. But the point of the Government's national debate is to try to establish the balance of opinion on these priorities. It is disingenuous to pretend that expenditure on the realities as presented "in a magistrates' court' or during an Ofsted inspection self-evidently ought to enjoy greater public support than expenditure on the armed forces or other capabilities which may enable the UK to continue to play an effective international role.

National debate

on defence policy

Sir: In a commendable effort to

create a national consensus on

defence and security policies, the

Government has launched what

Polly Toynbee accurately describes

as "a remarkable exercise in open

to despair when a journalist as gifted as Ms Toynbee contributes

prejudiced as "A Boy Scout motto:

to this exercise an article as

government". But it is difficult not

What is worse about Ms Toynbee's article is the impression conveyed that the whole defence policy exercise is a Yes, Minister farce. It would be difficult to guess from Ms Toynbec that the debate at last Friday's seminar lasted sixand-a-half hours; that the great majority of participants were drawn from university faculties and institutions such as the Oxford Research Group and the Disarmament Intelligence Review; or that of some 40 substantive interventions, fewer than 10 were from official spokesmen. Sir MICHAEL ALEXANDER

Chairman, Strategic Defence Review Seminar Centre for Defence Studies King's College University of London

Sir. Polly Toynbee states that there has not been any doglighting in aerial combat since the Battle of Britain. The Fleet Air Arm Sea Harriers "mixed it" with Argentine aircraft during the Falklands conflict. Sidewinders were used. but often British pilots had to get in close for a kill using cannous. In the Gulf, the RAF Tornado F3s were withdrawn from direct air support over the battlefield because they where not agile enough to take on Iraqi MiG-29s.

The current generation of Russian-huilt aircraft (which are heing exported to anyone who can pay) are extremely capable doglight aircraft. The RAF needs Eurofighter, because it is affordable (especially when compared to the US F-22) and capable of meeting this threat. wherever it may be mct. If Eurofighter were to be scrapped, what would we replace it with, and where would the money come from?

The media attacks on Eurolighter remind me of the illinformed campaign that killed the last truly great British aircraft project, the TSR-2. TEX BENNETT Earls Colne, Essex

A millennium stuck in the past

Sir: The fault with the millennium exhibition is that the whole idea of the grand exhibition of technology is an anachronism. When the Great Exhibition was held the Industrial Revolution was still young. Most people had not previously ventured as far as the metropolis, and the sights to be seen in the Crystal Palace were truly wondrous.

Many comparable exhibitions have been held since, all over the world, but they are all essentially the same thing, a demonstration of the latest achievements of human technological mastery over nature. There is no longer anything wondrous about this. Most people have themselves travelled at speeds approaching that of sound, and rison by machine above 30,000 feet in the air. We can all see moving

colour images from all over the world at the touch of a button in our own homes. After millennia of struggling against nature in a battle for survival it was only natural that the latest power of human achievement should be a cause of wonder and excilement. But that struggle is over. The struggle now is against our own profligacy; the powers of nature are tamed. The grand exposition is faintly ridiculous, rather like the local Bijon cinema

in the age of television. A far more appropriate way of celebrating the millennium, if we must celebrate an arbitrary date, would be in taking a grand step

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edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

towards conserving what is left of the natural world - creating a true, properly funded, national park perhaps. KHAGGETT Sheffield

Legal trap for the speedy

Sir: Miles Kington ("Trying to pull a fast one are we, sir?", 10 July) asks on what charge the police could get him if he stood by the road with a large sign warning speeding motorists of a police speed trap ahead. The answer is, obstructing a constable in the execution of his duty, contrary to section 89(2) of the Police Act 1996, an offence punishable with one month's imprisonment and/or a fine of up to £1,000. The High Court so held in 1909 when upholding the conviction of an AA patrolman who warned motorists exceeding the then speed limit of 20 mph: Betts v

tevens [1910] 1 KB 1. If Mr Kington were to protest that his warning was given only with the laudable objective of preventing the commission of a crime - the argument which prevailed in the earlier case of Bastable v Little [1907] 1 KB 59 e should be told that the Divisional Court in Green v Moore [1982] 2 WLR 671 were not impressed with this distinction. Donaldson LJ commenting: "We

cannot see any distinction between a warning given in order

may be suspended whilst there is a danger of detection, which is an offence, and one which is given in order that the commission of a crime may be postponed until after the danger of detection has passed."
DAVID LAMMING Groton, Suffolk

that the commission of a crime

Secret swoop on accused Serbs

Sir. Bill Woodger (letters, 14 July) obviously does not understand the complexities of arresting alleged war criminals if he is questioning the need for secrecy of indictments issued against Bosnian Serbs. The arrest of Kovacevic might well not have been possible had it not been for the sealed indictment.

Sadly, the chances of the "big fish" being arrested are very slim, despite Nato getting its act together. The chances of arresting Karadzic and Mladic are not helped by the publicised warrants for their arrest, as is the case with another 70 or so. By issuing secret indictments there is less chance of the suspects surrounding themselves with hundreds of bodyguards, thus preventing any kind of arrest - as Karadzic has

As regards SAS tactics, it would not have mattered who went to arrest Drijaca: it could have been the Metropolitan Police firearms unit: the result would have been the same. Or does Mr Woodger think it acceptable for a person nearly to kill another for simply issuing a verbal challenge? JAMES VELUSIE Nottingham

Afraid to talk about cannabis

Sir: A university student who, with his family, is a member of our congregation, has been sent to prison for six months for dealing in marijuana. The boy bought a few grams for himself and some friends. Apart from the savagery of the sentence for such a trivial offence -an offence which is shared by half the students in our universities - it highlights once again the desperate need for the Government to discuss our society's policy towards soft

Smoking or otherwise consuming marijuana is a regular part of the life of a huge number of British people from all generations. A law which is so widely disregarded has to be questioned. With the honourable exception of the admirable Clarc Short, why are our politicians so afraid to talk

What purpose can possibly be served by sending our young friend to a violent - he has already heen attacked once - and overcrowded prison where heroin is freely

The Rev NEIL DAWSON St Paul's Knightsbridge London SWI

Deaf drivers face ageist slur

Sir: What justification has Madeleine Neave (letter, 12 July) for her suggestion that hard of hearing people should be debarred from driving cars? I have known several profoundly deaf people who were safe and excellent drivers.

Most drivers with poor hearing are the more observant and quick to act on the evidence of their eyes and consequently among the safest on the roads. This is confirmed by my own insurers.

Let not this ageism deny us the right to drive while our eyes can be relied upon. Test eyes when need arises, hut careless youth, not experienced age, is the major cause of road accidents - and hearing has nothing to do with it. JACK PENYCATE Guildford Surrey

Clean rockets

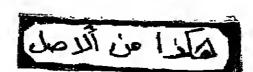
Sir: No, it is Mr Clarke (Letters, 14 July) who is not clever enough. when he suggests that the manufacture of hydrogen rocket fuel entails greenhouse gas production

Hydrogen can be produced by electrolysis, using electricity that can be generated by solar, wind and various other means (including nuclear) that do not generate carbon dioxide.
JIM MANGLES

Pavment deferred Sir: Your correspondents Mervyn

Benford (letter, 9 July) and M A Qavi (14 July) are fortunate I recently paid into a building

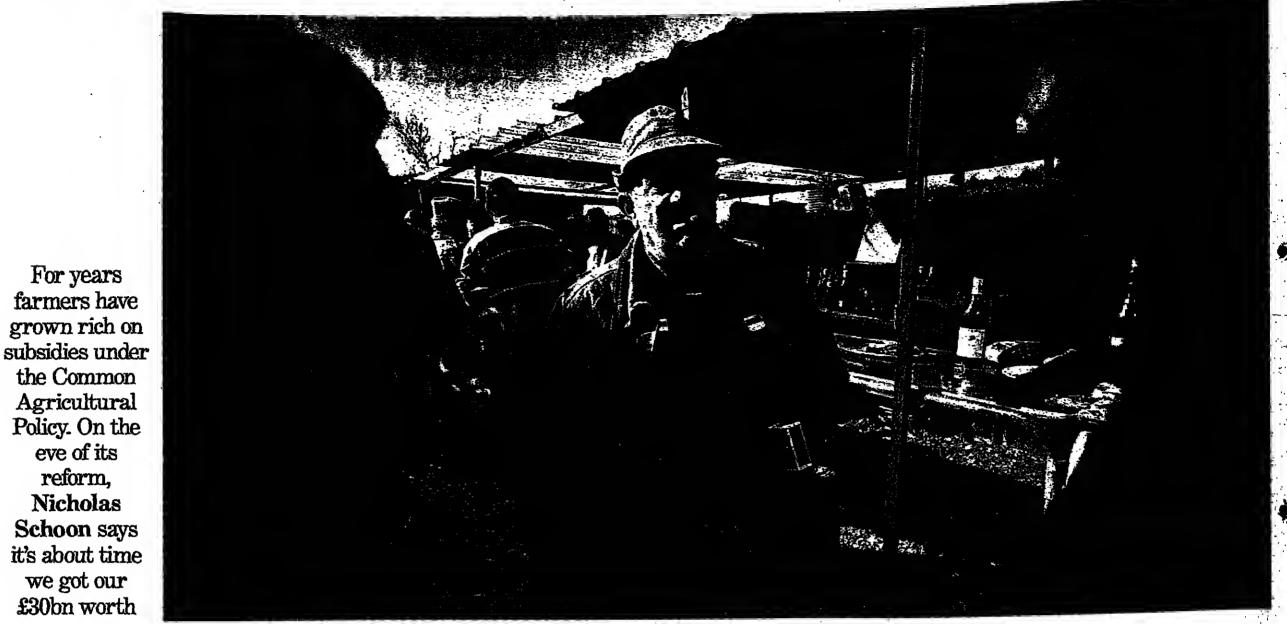
society (not yet a hank) a substantial cheque from an insurance company of good standing. With a short and. I hope, somewhat embarrassed pause, the employee dealing with it told me there would be a 10-day clearance period. RAFAELA MOTTRAM Salisbury



For years

eve of its reform. **Nicholas**

we got our



Fattened up, now for the kill

oday, with Britain's cereal harvest about to begin, the European Com-mission will spell out its latest proposed reform for Europe's greatest, longest-running scandal - the Common Agricultural Policy. What Brussels advocates is a lurch towards a freer market, with cuts in guaranteed minimum prices for cereals, beef and dairy products. Farmers will be compensated with direct annual payments running into thousands - and for some hundreds of thousands of pounds. These will continue indefinitely.

Food should become cheaper for consumers, but the overall £30bn-a-year cost of the CAP for Europe's taxpayers is expected to rise by a few billion pounds a year.

The Commission wants us to pay farmers a straight subsidy, simply because they are A Good tinue to be, by international standards, massively overmanned, though employment in it will keep on falling fast. That overmanning is also seen as desirable, because we want a thriving, populated countryside which continues to look as we expect it to. Sort of traditional. It must seem grotesquely unfair to the tens of thousands of European coal and steel workers who have lost their jobs because of the massive withdrawal of state subsidies in these industries. But you have to admire the sheer lubbying muscle of those farmers. The CAP costs the average Briton £3 in higher food prices and £1 in taxes each week. Total cost to UK taxpayers - about £3bn.

If we are to have these direct payments to farmers replacing artificially high prices for their

£5,000

£7,500

£165.62pm

£220.83_{bm}

£10,000

produce they ought to have strings attached. But before going into that we should welcome the good in this reform. It is absolutely right that Europe should reduce guaranteed, "interven-tion" prices further and move closer to world market prices. Guaranteed high prices encour-aged farmers to grow vastly more than con-sumers inside and outside Europe demanded. Mountains of cereals, skimmed milk powder and beef, and lakes of wine had to be stored and eventually dumped on world markets at sub-sidised, cheap prices. So European consumers had to pay unfairly high food prices within the Union, while outside, farmers in Third World countries struggled to compete with the cheap imports which harmed the chances of poor coun-

tries becoming self-sufficient in food.

Guaranteed high prices were an insane way recent freeing up and tariff-busting in interna-tional trade - the Uruguay Round of the GATT forced the European Union to start abandoning them. A 1992 reform of the CAP began the process. The single most important element was a 35 per cent cut in guaranteed minimum cereal prices, phased in gradually. To compensate, Europe's grain farmers were given a direct payment for each hectare of cereal they planted. The only string attached was that the continent's larger farms (which meant virtually all of Britain's) would have to stop growing cereal on part of their land (up to 15 per cent). They got an even larger payment for each hectare of this set-uside land. The idea was to grow less and cut surpluses by taking land out of production.

But then something strange happened. The internationally traded, world price of cereals began to rise much more rapidly than had been envisaged, thanks to a combination of bad harvests, soaring demand from fast-growing nations such as China and measures to cut overproduction introduced by hig exporters such as Europe. Instead of dumping exports at sub-sidised prices, the European Union actually imposed an export tax to try to keep its grain within its borders.

Farmers no longer needed to worry about the decline in the guaranteed minimum price - what they were getting was way above it. They no longer needed the direct payments in compensation, but they still got them. The mid-1990s were marvellous times for the "barkey barons" of East Anglia. Fortunately this absurd situation could not last; more cereal was grown worldwide, international markets readjusted and the world price came down. Now the European Commission is forecasting that farms will again produce mountains of beef, cereal and dairy products. Why? Because if farmers get a good, reliable price for their crops, they will inevitably grow more and more. Individuals improve their skills and find more land, while farming technology always improves and crop yields rise.

Yo another reform is needed to tackle these. surpluses, but there are two other power-Iful incentives for Europe to go back on CAP once more. The amount of surplus food the Union can dump on world markets at cheap prices has been strictly limited under GATT any breach would trigger a trade war. The next round of world trade negotiations is expected to curb this dumping still further. The accession of Eastern European states into the EU will also make the costs of the CAP to consumers and taxpayers very much higher.

Faced with these factors, there are really unly two options for reform. Make Europe's agriculture run on world market prices or set quotas which ensure the continents' farmers do not keep growing more food. Quotas are by far the worse option, because they are more bureau-cratic and keep prices artificially high.

The proposals in be unveiled by the Commission today include buth. The aim is to cut guaranteed cereal prices down to world market levels at a stroke, while reducing beef prices

ames Boyle, boss of

Radin 4, is rumoured to be axing some of the channel's best-loved

have been speculating about

which ones are due for the

such idle gossip. I prefer to speculate about how the

would deal with the matter.

programmes themselves

chop. I refuse to take part in

programmes, and people

more gradually - and compensating farmers with direct payments. A 10 per cent cut in the support prices for butter and skimmed milk powder is proposed, leaving them above world prices. Furthermore, the system of milk quotas for individual farmers is to continue beyond 2000, when

something roughly along these lines will eventually be agreed after about two years of intense argument between the EU member states. In the process, the governments and ministers of most nations – Britain and one or two others possibly excepted - will nor question the need for continuing, massive subsidies for farm-ers. They will use the same justification for CAP as they have for decades, that it preserves small farms, and therefore rural economies, and conserves traditional farmland landscapes.

But it doesn't. Farming will employ fewer and fewer people as it becomes more efficient. Our EU partners are far more worried about rural depopulation than we in Britain. Their employment in agriculture has been dropping at a faster rate than ours and is forecast to continue. Our farms are, on average, five times as large as the rest of Europe's and a much smaller proportion of our workforce is on the land.

Intensification, too, is bound to continue. In the process the landscapes and wildlife we love are destroyed. Hedges are grubbed out to make bigger, more efficient fields, meadows and pastures rich in wildflowers and insects are ploughed up, while the wetlands which support so much of our flora and fauns are drained. You can slow the rate at which farming modernises with generous, unconditional subsidies. But you cannot stop it, and you are just as likely to speed it up. That is what happened in Britain and elsewhere, such as the cereal plams of the Paris basin which are just as productive as anything in prairie like East Anglia.

The right way forward for the CAP has to be a combination of world market prices and conditionality. If we subsidise farmers they must give us something agreed upon in return, and if they fail their grants must be whipped away from them. What do we want from our European farms? A diversity of native wildlife, attractive landscapes, safe food, minimum use of pesticides and fertiliser, humane treatment of farm animals, long-term conservation of key resources and a living for rural people. Continued subsidy

must be conditional on farmers giving us these Farmers at things. If they want to opt out, and make a living solely by selling their products at an unsubsidised price then let them. But hopefully, the

majority would want to opt in.

There are all sorts of pitfalls. Take animal welfare, for example. The two factory-farmed creatures we are most worried about are hattery and broiler chickens and pigs. Both are outside the CAP's subsidy regime. If you had a mixed farm with cereal and beef as well as pigs and chickens, you could end the farmer's direct payments for beef and cereal if he refused to treat his pigs more humanely. But the farmer would be just as likely to respond by stopping beef and cereal farming and stepping up pig farming.

that nations, regions and local governments should be given as much say as possible in deciding what they want from farming in their own area. If continental Europe wants to focus much of the subsidy on maintaining reral economies and populations, fine, but this is not a priority in Britain. Here people are, by and large, moving out from the city into the countryside and the rural economy is doing better than the urban one. Our priorities, at least in lowland England, are to have more woodlands, ponds and wetlands, conserve what little remains of semi-natural habitats and expand organic or low-intensity agriculture. The other principle is that subsidies should be in return for topping the negative trends getting worse, and starting to make things better. If rural decline - of whatever kind - continues then the condi-

It may sound like a waste of money to give 13bn a year in subsidies for conserving British wildlife and landscapes. Think about what that could buy in terms of improved schools and public transport. But what is the alternative? Political realities dictate that European agriculture will continue to be massively subsidised. Britain.
a net contributor to the CAP, must ensure that
it gets its fair share of those subsidies (which will be around £3bn). Better to ensure they are used to give us the countryside we want rather than simply give them to our farmers unconditionally.

Calvinet in the Auvergne the French subsidies to help to. preserve. the rural way of life, but the opposite la

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Photograph,

tionality approach will have failed, just as the old ways failed before it. There also has to be scope for flexibility and imagination. We don't want a chocolate-box countryside.

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	APR	All Monthly Powments	Total Amount	Direct Load Saving
RB Direct TSB Bercklys NatWest	10.0%	£107.50 £116.33 £114.68 £112.78	\$5,583,64 \$5,583,64 \$5,504,84 \$5,413,44	0183.84 \$344.84 \$363.44
		A 27,200 See		
	APR	49 Monthly Payments	Total Amount	Direct Loan
RB Direct Barclays 758 NetWest	17.5%	\$186.86 \$200.69 \$187.45 \$194.27	29,533,12 29,533,12 29,475,20 19,324,96	2073.44 2518.82 1208.35

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pantomime of confrontation These, for instance ... From "Start the Week". and disagreement which enlightens nobody. In the studio we have the producer Brage: So what you're saying is that we are genetically predisposed to do less of Today and in the radio car we have Ridley Pallister, thinking between nine and 10 in the morning? radio critic. Now, John, you've been producing Today Geneticist: Yes. for how long? Producer: Five years. And it Bragg And any programme that sets out to have a good intellectual discussion about is a five years I am very the origin of consciousness proud of. Humphrys: Pallister? between 9 and 10 is barking up the wrong tree? Pallister. The last five years Geneticist: Yes. Especially on have seen the decline of a Monday morning. It's the Today from a thoughtful news programme into a worthless shouting match. worst possible time fur it. Brage: That's tosh Monday morning between nine and Producer: That's absolute 10 is a great time for the cut rubbish! and thrust of debate. This Pallister: No, it's not. And everyone knows it but you programme does it all the and James Boylel Producer: Today gets more than 2 million listeners. In

Miller: Did I hear someone

From the "Today" programme.

John Humphrys: A decision is likely to be reached soon

about whether Today should

Some say it is the foremost

channel of morning news.

Others say it is a crude

the evening the Radio 4

barely 200,000. We must be

audience has shrunk to

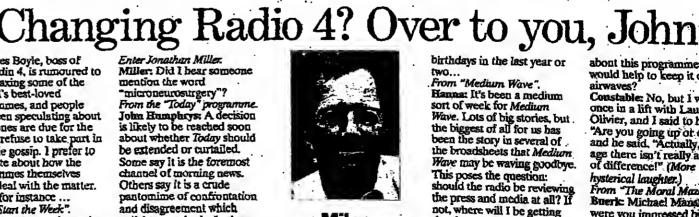
doing something right.

be extended or curtailed.

microneurosurgery"?

mention the word

Geneticist: Think how much better it would do it if we were all awake and not frazzled by Monday morning Bragg, That's tosh.



Miles Kington

Pallister: You've got the right slot, that's all. Most people automatically switch on radios for the news early in the morning as they get up and move around the house. Whatever programme was on then would get a good audience. It doesn't mean it's a good programme. Just a good slot. Producer: That's rubbish! Humphrys: I wish we had more time for this fascinating discussion, but alas...

From Midweek" Libby Purves: And today's special birthday guest is a man who has listened to every edition of Midweek since it started! But first let's go round our guests and see how many of them have had

From "Medium Wave". Hanna: It's been a medium sort of week for Medium Wave. Lots of big stories, but the biggest of all for us has been the story in several of .. the broadsheets that Medium Wave may be waving goodbye. This poses the question: should the radio be review the press and media at all? If not, where will I be getting the chance to chair another programme? Simon? Hoggart: Can't belp you there, Vincent. Hanna: Cecil Parkinson? Parkinson: Hello, everyone!

Nice to be back!

birthdays in the last year or

Hanna: And so goes this medium week. See you soon, or not, as the case may be. From "Loose Ends". Sherrin: And the mystery poise was, of course, the sound of the are falling on The Afternoon Shift. (Hysterical laughter from guests.) Right then, let me see, ah yes, Jenny Constable, you're appearing in a revival of The First Noel, the Sheridan Morley musical about Noel Coward... Constable: That's right, the Domino Theatre, from Friday, Sherrin: Very good, got the

plug in, now do tell us, have

you got any funny stories

about this programme which would help to keep it on the airwaves?

Constable: No. but I was once in a lift with Laurence Olivier, and I said to him: "Are you going up or down?" and he said. "Actually, at my age there isn't really a lot of difference!" (More hysterical laughter) From "The Moral Maze". Buerle Michael Mansfield were you impressed by any of the witnesses who wanted The Moral Maze axed? Mansfield: I rather agreed with the man who said that this wasn't a discussion. programme at all, but a soup opera with rather crudely drawn stereotypes as

David Starkey: Oh, that's just so stupid and anti-intellectual Give me an example! Mansfield: Certainly, There used to be a character called Edward Pearce who was written out after classies with

Starkey: That's preposterous! We arter! Starkey: That comes wall from a numped-up new reader! Etc. etc. Full transcrip

Now Blair must go out and sell his vision of reform

hat has happened to "the constitutional question"? Has it been lost? Has the Lord Chancellor made off with it to his Argylishire fastness, hoping to frame it while no one was looking? After all, we were told the constitution was going to he a great political cause for the new government; and so far, nary a cheep.

In fact, the hird is just about to crow. Political reform in general and devalution in particular.

eral, and devolution in particular, has been the subject of a ferociously hard and at times tough battle inside government. Finally, a week tomorrow, the White Paper on Scottish and Weish devolution will he published - the fruit of many intense hours of cabinet committee struggle, which ended yesterday morning. That will begin a huge pobtical debate which will engulf those countries and much of England too. Already there have been lurid stories of ferocious rows over wbether the Scots should control their own abortion laws or not, and which building is right for the new parliament, and whether the Scots and Welsh should have their funding cut as a punishment for greater freedom.

Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, bas tussled mightily with the Lord Chancelior, now married to his former wife, and Jack Straw, the enthusiastically English Home Secretary, among others. Dewar has had a particularly tough job. He is partly there to hold a straining Union together. He is assailed by the Scots in general and The Scotsman in particular for every species of betrayal, while his

English MPs sometimes seem to regard him as a nationalist interloper.

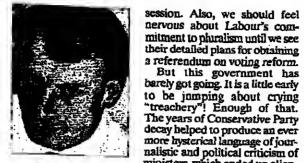
Yet, as the smoke from cabinet-ministerial battle clears, Dewar, a very sbrewd operator indeed, will emerge pretty well. The big questions about cutting the number of Scottish MPs and cutting public spending in Scotland and Wales have been put off. There is strong English talk about returning to those issues - the new Boundary Commission will look again at Scottish over-representation at Westminster, for instance. But that is fair enough.

What matters is that Dewar has delivered on the central promise of producing a package of important devalved powers, with Scotland uttol året lag big at cation, health, housing, law reform. If the Scot-tish parliament is established, doing its job well and becoming popular, it will accrue more powers in time. If not, not.

The question of who is sovereign - the people or the Westminster parliament - has been sensibly side-stepped. The view in government is that the people of Scotland are sovereign in the sense of being able to choose their own destiny; but while they remain in the British Union, Westminster remains the supreme constitutional power. Overall, a process of deciding who should do what, which dragged on endlessly ibrough the last Labour administration, has been efficiently telescoped into a few intense, difficult but successful weeks. That, at

least, is the view of civil servants involved.

Now the job of selling begins – nut only to the people of Scotland and Wales, but to Middle England too. That cannot he untied from the wider constitutional agenda, the promise of a new selllement between voters and government that was made before the election. We have heard very little about that. A rather fishy silence, it seemed to me. I remain suspicious about whether a proper Freedom of Information Bill will arrive in the next parliamentary



session. Also, we should feel nervous about Labour's com-

mitment to phuralism until we see their detailed plans for obtaining

a referendum on voting reform.

mioisters, which ended up alien-

ating people from politics entirely. We need a more mod-erate and calibrated style of crit-icism for the new administration:

oot every delay is betrayal, nor

every ameodmeot a seli-out.

All that said, these are still uneasy times for reformers. At

times this seems a government

intoxicated by the strength of its

own pragmatism. People are the answer to problems, not structures: bring in a Branson, pick up a Puttnam, take away a Taylor. There is a lot of truth in that—

Blair is surrounding himself with

experience and talent that,

frankly, Labour has lacked and

needs in power.

But the demolition of ideology and the reliance on "good chaps" isn't value free. It is centralist and,

in the longer term, conservative

too. The chaps, however good,

are picked from a small group of

successful metropolitan net-

workers. That keeps the circle of

advice small and relatively homo-

geneous. As time goes on, and the pressures of government increase, the convenience of tired ministers ensures that debates

which ought to happen out in the open take place privately

But this government has

Andrew Marr

We have heard little about the promise of a new

settlement between voters and government.

A rather fishy silence, it seems to me

> between a few chums. By contrast, the case for constitutional reform is unavoidably ideological. We cannot pretend it is a thoroughly pragmatic, common-sense thing. It is in fact the unfinished work of the Enlightenment, a political response to an unreformed and centralised state. It takes for granted that the more involved people are in big decisions, at least in giving their assent, the better. The caricature reformer is instinctively wary of power, just as the caricature New Labourite

> is hopelessly, dizzyingly ln love with it. And yet I think Blair himself, for all his centralist grahhing, is at least partly a genuine reformer. He is a man with his eye on history, who wants to change the country. He is already which compares to the programmes of Gladstune or Lloyd George: his success or failure in that will partly determine his reputation. On the edge of the third millennium. Tony Blair is fated to be either a great reforming prime minister, or a failed one; just as I think be is fated to be Britain's first (at least mildly) envi-

> ronmentalist prime minister.
>
> What we need is a great political offensive by the Prime Minister, to explain and sell his vision for a reformed, sleaze-free and more democratic nation. He needs to set out the more general case for reform - a new deal between the voters and government. He needs, in short, to define the terms by which be expects

> history to judge him.
>
> And, I think, he needs to start doing it quite soon, certainly by the end of this year. Any later and the tone of his government will be set - a tone that seems, just at the moment, a little too clubby and centralised for its own longer-term good. From Scotland to Southend, and from the House of Lords to the parish council, this is a nation that needs a vigorous blast of political reform, not just a new party acting in the old way. Tony Blair has it in him to be a great leader. On the constitution, it is time for him to lead.

New York? London? We're all on the move

jana, Priocess of Wales may or may not be planning to move abroad, but she bas the choice. So, too, will more and more of us. If she does go, she will be joining a new, still-exclusive but rapidly growing community: the global citizens.

These are the people who think of themselves as international, rather than national; who can choose to live any-where in the world; whose main base is simply a matter of convenience (and sometimes tax) and can be changed at will; and to whom countries, even medium-sized ones such as the

UK, seem provincial and small.
Of course, Princess Di is
also a star; she is a top-of-therange global celeh. Royalty have in any case always been international, witness the family links between the Euro-pean royal families of the last century. Countries would "out-source" their royal families from the global pool of suitable persons. But until now the possibility of being a global citizen has been limited to a tiny minority who have made, inherited or married fortunes, or have had one of those rare trades - such as writing - that

can be carried out anywhere. Now that bas changed. As the cost of telecommunications has plunged and the capability has soared, anyone who works on screen can - in theory, at least - live anywhere. For the first time in history, people do not need to live in the country in which they work.

The result is that instead of there being only a tiny minority of rich people who have real freedom of location, and who can therefore think of themselves as being heyond the clutches of a nation state - perbaps a few hundred thousand. world-wide - there will be millions. It was once just the nobility; now it is the mobility.

As people become more mobile, just as companies have done, some tough questions arise. One obvious one is: how will countries continue to raise as firms, can move away? We are used to the idea of governments hribing foreign countries to set up local plants; and international competition is holding down company tax rates, as Gordon Brown acknowledged in his Budget. But we are seeing only the very early stages of this process as far as individuals are concerned. Expect to see more and more governments pitching their personal taxation at levels that are attractive to the new

Behind that, though, is a deeper set of questions. What is the glue? What will hold people to countries, bold societies together? If an increasing proportion of people are able to base themselves anywhere, what will stop choice of location becoming a mere con-venience? Will loyalties be-ware writers could be anycome increasingly horizontal -



Princess Diana on a visit to New York City. Could we afford to lose her?

Princess Diana could live anywhere but in practice she needs to be near the people who 'market' her services

European royal families in the second half of the last century? Or will they remain to a large extent vertical - to their neighbours and compatriots?

There are, I think, at least two sorts of gloe, both of which governments would be wise to try to strengthen. One is prossional; the other is social.

People have to work somewhere, and while the telecommunications revolution will liberate many workers from the daily trek to the office, there will still be reasons wby people will be limited to specific locations. One is the phenomeopo ware writers could be anywhere; in practice they cluster

In the Ditch

to other people in similar occu-pations elsewhere in the globe, rather like the loyalties of the dimension in the performance they achieve if they live in reasonably close proximity to each other. Anything that can be dooe to strengthen skill clusters (such as Bill Gates's sup-port for boosting software skills in Cambridge) will help bolt a potentially mobile business to a particular country.

Good physical communications are also important. Paradoxically, the more people work on screen, the more they also need to be near an airport. For while their main work can be carried out anywhere, they will from time to time need to meet other people in their business - and, of coorse, the people who market their

You can even see this professional glue in the case of Princess Diana. She could live anywhere, but in practice she needs to be reasonably near the people who "market" her services: the media. (Seen in commercial terms, her problem is that she does not bave control of her own distribution:

a brilliant product, but one

that is haphazardly and even destructively marketed.) The media will go down to Si Tropez for a good story, but if she is to cuntinue her scrious work, she probably has either to remain in the UK, or, perhaps, move to the US. She would not he able to attract appropriate publicity were she to move to, say, Switzerland or

The other sort of glue is social: people will chose a par-ticular location because it offers the right mix of social characteristics. Why do many rich people live in the middle of giant cities, where they pay more for space, and suffer congestion and noise, when they could objectively have a better quality of life in a mediumsized country town? Answer: hecause mega-cities offer social and cultural attractions which even decent-sized provincial towns cannot match. But if the disadvantages of cities become too great, and the medium-sized towns are clever in creating social and cultural events, then they can attract mobile people. If you want to revive a run-down city, make sure you huild an art gallery, as well as new uffice

his matters for countries, too. Social and cultural L events not only make them mure attractive for the mobile. They also act as a glue hinding different gruups of people who are not potential migrants. While it is inevitable that many people will identify more with their peers in similar professions in other countries, that does not mean they will necessarily want to cut themselves uff from different people within their own. Not many people would want to live in a galed community - or. rather, live in a society that makes gated communities Britain has been extra-

ordinarily successful in attracting people who see themselves as glubal citizens. That has something to du with taxatinn. residents, hut it surely has more to du with professional clusters (as in financial services), and social and cultural attractions. This enriches the culturally, tou. We should therefore worry if our own home-grown members uf the new mobility feel uncomfortable here. If Princess Di is indeed thinking about moving, we should try to persuade



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My lofty life amid the poor in the Ditch Hoston & 0.25 nm. Hoxton & DITCH developers and those huildings out falling to a shadowy mafia from Stamford Hill are snapped up before the boards are in place, amid rumours of unusual deals with Iraqi banks. Gordon, are you listening?

Carole Hayman

This is the cash and carry world. The cash changes hands in the pub and the carrying is done under cover of darkness

rite about the poor," I was told. "This loft living sounds perfectly Hogarthian." The glue-sniffing derelict who regularly kips in my doorway would totally endorse this description. "Fancy top of a once iodustrial in the same of the s a shag darlin'?" he whimpered hope-lessly at my kneecaps, as I tottered in from a trendy artisan bar last night. I slammed the door on his rake's rags. He was once a City-boy dealer in futures.

Pity he couldn't foresee his own.

A more rascal-ridden, geezerish, mafia-warring, cell-phoned, ethnically melted, square mile than Shoreditch would indeed be hard to find. Not so much as a kitchen sink is missing from this urhan trifle. As I exited my fashionable and filthy galvanised steel dungeon on to the filthier High Street this morning, there was one standing proud on the cracked and crazy pavement.

No one in the Ditch seems to have noticed that these last few months have seen momentous changes in our island's status quo. Elections are as irrelevant here as council tax and gardens. Anyone who believes in politicians is a mug, just as is anyone who pays the asking price fur anything. This is the cash-andcarry world. The cash changes hands in the puh and the carrying is done under cover of darkness. Ditch dwellers rightly believe no government could better

manage the economy. Syd, the local psycho (he once dropped six tabs of acid in one go, no one nonced) can lay his hands on most things, "I've got this mate Keith in Transco, know wha' I'm sayin' ..." There's a stretch of the High Street where no business is transacted without his say-so. From a concrete without his say-so. From a concrete blaster to a line of coke you call Keith on

building, now converted into luxury "studio" apartments. You'd think that implied live/work spaces for photographers and artists but, in fact, it's City-boy bonuses that snaffle up these jewels at exorbitant prices. Villainous 'hood estate ageots Shaft and Gazump have made sure of that. This particular roof has an area of potted geraniums, climbers and Astroturf, all doing remarkably well despite the

smoggy fumes that rise even this far from the traffic-choked High Street. Conan, Syd's dog - a mogrelish boxer with pugnacious tendencies and a permanently dribbling nose, not unlike Syd himself - scampers across the asphalted surface to lay a turd in the Astroturf. He is followed at a trot by Yasmin, Syd's consort, in bicycle sborts and improbably stacked heels. "Want any trainers?" she yodels. She is lugging a Prada suitcase which she opens to display a jumble of brand new Nikes and Adidases. "Size seven," she adds mysteriously. I explain to Yasmin that at the moment I have no mnney for any sort of shoe except the kind you boil and eat. She gives me an old-fashioned look. People in the Ditch may be poverty trapped but they can always get hold of

Dut Street . Shoredich underground Canal Serial Fields Canaly Monday morning. The queue of claimant desperadoes goes round the block, Many appear to be Bosnian. Two have a bike they want to sell. They demonstrate its versatility, spinning the front wheel, halancing oo the back one. Perhaps they were trick cyclists in the

old country? The octogenarian leaning on her zimmer frame isn't impressed, nor is the harassed mother with three children under five in a push-chair, but the teenager sheltering from the slanting rain under a bit of card reading "homeless and hopeless, please help. thank you" exhibits mild curiosity.

Leonards and a sweep across gothic Spitalfields to the hi-tocb of the City. In the othr direction is beaming Canary Wharf.

Swathes of Eastern Europeans have penetrated the area, appearing with ghetto-blasters and obscure electrical goods in the local markets; giving even screenplays tucked into their Puffa jackets. While I sit here chewing my pen ... Syd's looking out for a state-of-the-art laptop for me ... an industrial sander is working over the other side of the rustic fence and the sound of roadworks and diamond-bit drilling is deafening. When I said I was moving from Highgate to an East End loft my "Ham and High" friends were mystified. Why would I want to trade in my delightful house with terrace and garden for grim Dickensian squalor? I have to admit I've wondered myself whilst wrestling with the Laocoon electrics and Heath Robinson plumbing. Yet the view across the mostops is bizarrely harmonious. There is St

After the post office, I visit the

chemist, who takes it for granted I won't

be paying for my prescription, scout the market for bargains and having pounced on one or two spend the cash saved on a lottery ticket. Next to football and

booze the lottery is the Ditch-dweller's

Back to the roof. Must get on with the novel. In the Brickies last night was

spurred on by three young men with

greatest leisure interest.

are you listening?

Oh, excuse me my celipbone is ringing. the ubiquitous Shaft and Gazump a few Carole Hayman's novel 'Missing' will be money. The ubiquitous Shaft and Gazump a few Carole Hayman's novel Missing we Never go to Hoxton Post Office on a pangs in the pocket. For they too are published by Goldanez near March.

Besides, it's an adventure ... in the Ditch

you never know what will happen next

DUSINESS & CITY FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Managers and OFT report attacks 'inefficient and expensive' pension schemes played down the severity of consumers were being let down

and Clifford German

The pensions industry was slammed yesterday in a hard hitting report from the Office of Fair Trading that came only weeks after companies were carpeted by Treasury minister Heleo Liddell. John Bridgeman, the OFT's director-general, said millions of people had been sold short by unnecessarily complex products sold on the back of "insubstantial and illu-

Mr Bridgeman slated existing pension provision, which he said failed to meet consumers' needs. He said: "Action has been takeo to root out and deal with receot pension scandals, hut our investigation shows fixed henefit occupational

are still failing to meet consumers' needs.

Launching the three-volume report, he said: "I hope we can all recognise we can do better and the time has come to do better. The time has now come to take the UK a major step forward and to lead with the best pensions which money can buy." The OFT recommended a

new kind of retirement savings scheme, called a Designated Pension Plan (DPP), which would dispense with costly investment managers and invest pension contributions in tracker funds, which match the movements of the stock market.

According to Mr Bridgeman, the new schemes would be an alternative to the current dethat existing pension products schemes linked to final salaries

and the defined contribution, or money purchase, schemes that form the basis of personal

Both types of scheme were unsatisfactory, the OFT report coocluded. Defined benefit schemes penalised all but the small minority of workers who stayed with one employer for the whole of a 40-year career. Defined contribution schemes, which were apparently more flexible, paid the price through inefficient and expensive distribution, failure to achieve economies of scale and expen-

sive fund management". According to the report the worst defined contribution schemes ate up almost 30 per cent of pension contributions in commission and other charges.

taken in the early years of a scheme, hitting hard anyone who was unable to maintain

Key features of the proposed DPP, include: D Passive fund management. Mr Bridgeman said tracker funds

that attempted no more than matching stock market indices delivered better and cheaper financial performance than traditional actively managed funds which were unable to consistently beat the market.

Systematic reduction of investment risk. The proposed

funds would safeguard pensions by reducing the exposure to equities over a consumer's working life. Eventually funds would be wholly invested in risk free assets such as index linked gilts.

chased on the open market, with no penalties for shifting to a new provider. Men and women vould receive equal annuity

Different expenses with no hidden element. Unlike current pension products, charges would not be loaded towards the early years of a plan. This would avoid penalising anyone who failed to maintain contributions over the whole period of the plan.

☐ Obligatory employers' contributions. Anyone who wanted a DPP rather than an occupational pension scheme would be entitled to contributions from their employer.
Mr Bridgeman was speaking

at the end of a nine-month investigation by the OFT into pension provision, which had been set up to identify areas where

by the current system.

He added: "Many personal plans are poor value and benefits are frequently croded by the high cost of marketing and fund management. These expenses are often loaded on to the early years of the plan and they bear disproportionately on people who discontinue the pension because of changes in personal circumstances."

The most contentious part of the report in the City was its claim that expensive fund managers were not earning their keep: "There is no convincing evdence that fund managers can consistently outperform the market over the period of a pension plan, although the industry does not like to face up to this."

the OFT criticism. A spokesman for the Association of British Insurers said the proposal had much in commoo with its own proposals for increasing the flexibility of pension plans. Defending the performance of

the fund management industry, Julian Samways, head of mar-keting at Schroder Investment Management, said: There is evidence that a proportion of active managers do consistently outperform indices." He said that pension funds that choose the outperformers benefit and that performance can last for ex-

tended periods. The report was welcomed by the Government, which is expected to announce tomorrow its own review of pensions provision.

fund managers can consistently outperform the market over the period of a pen

sion plan although the industry does not like to face up to this." John Bridgeman, OFT.

the market

ing evidence that

This is another body blow to the financial services establishment." Tony Wood, Virgin Direct

It's a sweeping generalisation. I'm Steven Cameron,

surprised at the OFE Scottish Equitable There is evidence

that a proportion of active managers do consistently outperform indices. Julian Samways, Schroder Investment

Management : 'On aggregate, activ

managers don't real produce the sort of returns that are work paying for." Alastair MacDougall, WM Company...

'I wouldn't like to count how many fund managers I've put out of business over the last 10 years." James Woodlock, ... Bardays Global investors

The bulk of these charges were Debate on investment strategies reactivated

Percentage of fund value represented by charges 25 yrs yrs. 6.0 12.6 9.2 Best fund 20.1 15.8 Worst fund £10,000 single premium 16.2 11.8 Best fund 15.2 22.6 17.0 Industry average 32.2 23.1 Worst fund

pensions industry has re-opened a heated debate in the City over the relative merits of traditional active fund management and the so-called tracker or index funds that limit their ambitions to matching a market benchmark such as the FTSE 100 index, writes

Tom Stevenson. The argument has been highlighted recently by several high rofile and costly misreadings of the stock market by wellknown fund managers and a steady encroachment by passive fands which now account for about a third of all assets under management in the US and a growing proportion of British pension funds.

Best known of the active managers who have got it expensively wrong has been Tony Dye at PDFM, whose move out of shares and into cash in antici-

John Bridgeman's swipe at the pation of a market crash has meant his clients have missed out on the late stages of one the most prolonged ball markets ever. He has crashed down the league tables of the City's highly paid fund managers and suffered a damaging blow to his reputation.

By contrast fund managers such as Barciays Global Investors, the asset management arm of the high street bank, are enjoying strong demand for their low cost, predictable service, BGI claims to be the biggest fund manager in the world with £225bn of funds under management.

According to James Wood-lock, managing director of BGI: "The advantages are low cost and certainty. I wouldn't like to count how many active fund managers I've put out of business over the last 10 years." He said active funds charged between three and four times as

much in annual management fees on a typical pension fund as their passive rivals. The passive fund managers,

backed vesterday by Mr Bridgeman, claim that in the long run it is impossible for active managers to consistently outperform the market by share picking. WM Company, the performance measurement specialist, provides statistical evidence to back that claim;

According to WM, a study of ore than £200bn of pension funds showed that between 1986 and 1995 actively mana funds returned 14.7 per cent a year compared to 15.1 per cent from passive funds. The All Share index during that period averaged 15.2 per cent a year.

According to WM's Alastair McDongall: "There will always be active funds that do spe tacularly well but there will albe funds that do.

particularly badly. The whole point about the index approach is that it gives you a defined re-

turn relative to a given index." Index-linked portfolios, many of which only change as underlying index does, have far less turnover than active portfolios, with turnover in all index-type funds about 15 percent annually, according to WM Company. This compares to turnover of between 50-80 per

cent in active portfolios. Active managers hotly dispute the claims of their passive rivals, with a spokesman for Mercury Asset Management saying yesterday: "The average actively managed fund does tend to outperform but the best can be expected to substantially out-

perform over time." Steven Cameron, director of usions development at Scottish Equitable agreed: "Its a sweeping generalisation. I'm

surprised at the Office for Fair Trading suggesting that we limit consumer choice."

Julian Samways, head of marketing at Schroder Investment

Management, added: "There is evidence that a proportion of active managers do consistently outperform indices." He cautioned that an over-

reliance on index funds can lead to distortions in the market, as the proportion of freely traded shares diminishes. "You could get a situatioo where the gny with the one freely traded share of Boots is

able to move the market." Currently, most British pension funds use active managers for their equity portfolios, with only around 15 per cent in passive funds. A wholesale move to index trackers along the American lines could mean substantial job losses in the fund management industry.

Bank nets soar: Diane Coyle

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Ayling under fire from BA investors

Bob Ayling, chief executive of British Airways, came under sustained attack from shareholders yesterday over his handling of the cahin crew dispute, the airline's change of corporate identity, and its £thn husiness efficiency plan.

More than 900 shareholders crammed into the Barbican Centre in London for the company's annual meeting and, with the strike providing a stark reminder that BA was not everyone's favourite airline, the vast bulk of the questioning was hostile.
One shareholder, Peter Page, accused Mr Ayling of being the most divisive chief executive in

BA's history and said that he and the board lacked integrity: "ti is seeping like a stench through the management culture and it emanates from the very top," he Another shareholder took

Mr Ayling to task over his £64,000 pay rise last year, contrasting it with the pay freeze and pay cuts that staff had been forced to accept as part of BA's efficiency plans. Yet another shareholder who

was also an employee with 28 years service said that morale was the lowest he had ever known. Mr Ayling was frequently ad-dressed as Bob - a reference to his closeness to Prime Minister Tony Blair, who also favours

first-name terms - but the ques-

FTSE SmallCap 2205.43 +1 07 +0.0

Statistics as of 15 July

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tioning was rarely chummy.

One sbareholder said that in the days of Lord King the airline had a programme called Putting People First. The initials were still in use today hut now they stood for Putting Profits First. Warming to his theme, the shareholder said that BA's staff were now so "alienated and de-moralised" that the ailrine could go the way of PanAm, the US carrier that collapsed in the

Lord King, who is being given the honary title of president emeritus to coincide with his 80th hirthday, accepted the plaudits but took no pleasure in the attacks on his successors. Mr Ayling responded by in-sisting that if shareholders want-

ed BA to remain one of the world's most profitable airlines, then it had to strive to improve efficiency. The cabin crew dispute was not about union bashing and BA had no plans, repeat plans, to de-unionise BA, said the embattled chief executive. People who feared BA was being turned into a "virtu-al airline" were living on a different plant, he said but it had to change to prosper. "Radical and thorough-going chaoge cause upset. The one thing people do not like is change. Last weck's strike was a mani-

festatioo of that." But as sooo as Mr Ayling had doused one fire of shareholder

resentment, another sprang up.
Why was BA's long-haul catering arm being sold off and would

Bay's change: Change (%) 1996/97 high 1996/97 Lear Tiebl(%)

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STOCK MARKETS

it henceforth be run by accoun-tants, asked one shareholder. "Which would you prefer, a meal prepared by a chef or a meal prepared by an accountant?"

A chef, replied the BA chair-man Sir Colin Marshall, coming to Mr Ayling's defence. But the fusillade continued. Why was BA having tailfins on its aircraft painted with world designs at a cost of £60m and what evidence did BA have that customers preferred an airline that had abandoned its national identity, shareholders demanded to know.

Mr Ayling sought to explain how careful research had shown that BA's very Britishness was standing in the way of its development abroad. There are aspects of the way we are which are not always belpful, we seem to be aloof," be explained helpfully. Why not jettison the name altogether then, asked ooe shareholder, while another suggested BA he renamed

er suggested BA be renamed British Ethnic Airways.
Mr Ayling kept retreating. The competition was getting tougher, he insisted. "Who would have thought you could have flown Edinburgh to London for \$29? It's cheaper than the bus." But there was oo escape. Who would have thought it would cost £450 to fly down from the Outer Hebrides to attend BA's agm, said one shareholder, now that BA had abandoned services to the Highlands and Islands and franchised out the route.

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Bob Ayling (left) and Sir Colin Marshall at the BA meeting Photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra Alliance with American faces delay until next summer

The alliance between British Airways and American Airlines is facing a further delay of up to one year, shareholders were warned yesterday, writes

Michael Harrison.

Boh Ayling told the annual BA meeting that the alliance was unlikely to be operational until next summer even if it finally obtained approval from UK, US

and European regulators.

If the start-up is delayed until next summer it will mean that it will have taken BA and AA two years to get the alliance off the ground.
When the alliance was un-

Long Stead (20) Now Age

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veiled in June last year the intention was to launch com-hined transatiantic services by spring this year. Regulatory hurdles subsequently forced the two airlines to delay the launch until this November. Now it appears unlikely that the alliance will formally commence until the 1998 summer timetable is introduced next

May.
Mr Ayling said he was disappointed that approval had taken so long but was still hopeful of reaching an acceptable deal with regulators. The UK's Office of Fair Trad-

storing Change Year less

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ing has called oo BA and AA to give up 168 runway slots -equivalent to 12 round trips a week - in return for approving the alliance. But US regulators have recommended that the two airlines be required to relinquish double that number of slots. The European Competi-tion Commissioner Karel Van Miert is thought to have pressed for a similar concession.

Mr Ayling said that 168 slots was a large oumber and if BA and AA gave up that many it mercial standpoint

would make the alliance difficult to proceed with from a com-

CURRENCIES

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Government abandons BT golden share him removed from MCI be-Michael Harrison

The Government yesterday removed one of the obstacles to British Telecom's \$20hn (£12bn) merger with MCI by abandoning its goldeo share in BT which protected the company from takeover.

The announcement, on the

eve of BT's annual shareholders meeting in Edinburgh today, will ease the path for regulatory approval of the deal in the US. But the merger is still hang-ing by a thread following MCI's shock profits warning late last week which has forced BT to choose between renegotiating

the terms of the deal or pulling out altogether.

BT is set to receive a rough ride today from shareholders demanding to know why the profits warning emerged after hoth sets of investors had

approved the merger.
MCI president Timothy Rice. one of the executives blamed for one of the executives biamed for the profit warning, said in Wash-ington yesterday that it was "going straight ahead" with the merger despite facing losses of \$800m this year and \$1hn next wear on its attempt to break into the US local telephone market. He declined to say whether the merger would have to be restructured because of the losses. He also responded to suggestions that BT wanted cles of association.

cause of the profit warning by saying he expected to be run-ning MCI for a "long" time.

The decision by Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade to end the golden share was welcomed by BT. The "golden share" prevented any single shareholder from owning more than 15 per cent. of BT, thus making it bid-proof. BT's competitors in the US argued that this left the UK

block the MCI deal : We are extremely pleased with the Government decision and the speed with which they've acted," a BT spokes-woman said. She said negotiations initiated with the previous government had been resumed with the Labour administration soon after the election.

telecoms market less open and

therefore US regulators had to

She said the Government's action "makes it clear to other operators and foreign govern-ments that BT operates in a normal competitive environment and has discogaged itself from the last trace of formal gov-ernment control.

the ban on BT having a foreign lifted and the Government to longer has power to veto 2007 changes to the company's arti-

UK drinks pair reject LVMH proposals

groups' £23bn merger, writes Andrew Yates. The proposed deal involved

LVHM, headed by Bernard Arnault, splitting its Moet Hennessy subsidiary into two - a champagne group and a cognac business. LVHM would have sold its 66 per cent stake in Hennessy to Guinness in exchange for its 34 per cent stake in Moet. We had three-way talks with

Grand Metropolitan and Guin- Moet Hennessy's finance di ness yesterday rejected the latest proposals from LVHM that were designed to overcome the Prench luming goods around the studied these outline proposals. Prench luxury goods group's but they do not appear to be in our shareholders interests. spokesman for GrandMet said. However, LVMH claimed it

was Guinness and GreedMcz that had suggested the deal and that there was no question of it going ahead. Instead, LYMFI was planning to outline alternative proposals as early as today for merger of United Districts and IDV, the drinks divisions of Guinness and Grandwick 185 spectively with Mess Library spectively, with Moet Hennessy.

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COMMENT

'It is true that the average actively managed fund does tend to underperform the index. However, the best substantially outperform, even over the long haul. An outperformance of only 1 per cent per annum over 40 years would yield an extra 25 per cent pension'

Bridgeman's pension plan has its own problems

This was the not altogether surprising conclusion of the Office of Fair Trading's inquiry into the pensions industry, which is found to be riddled with consumer problems of one sort or another. Rather more contentious is John Bridgeman's 10-point plan for reform. Among some perfectly reasonable and secsible suggestions for improving the lot of those trying to save through pensinn products, the director general of fair trading makes some

highly debatable assertions.

The most inflammatory of these is that "tracker funds deliver better and cheaper financial performance than actively managed funds, as fund managers cannot consistently beat the market with active fund managemeot". Well oow, Mr Bridgeman. Have you ever met the formidable Carol Galley, vice chairman of Mercury Asset Management? She'd be prepared to give you a lecture or

Certainly it is true that the average actively managed fund does tend to underperform the index. However, the best substantially outperform, even over the long haul. An outperformance of only 1 per cent per annum over 40 years would yield an extra 25 per cent pension in payment.

Furthermore, the observation that passively managed funds do just as well if oot better than actively managed ones is really only applicable in rising markets. Since this is what equity markets have been doing for | proposes some reasonable and long overdue

Shock, borror, hold the front page and all the past 10 years, the observation seems to that most pension schemes are a rip-off. have been supported by the evidence. But undoubtedly build into its review of pensions. in fact, actively managed funds oearly all do better in falling markets.

The other obvious point to be made here is that the cost of fund management is not in any case the chief villain of the piece. Asset management, whether active or passive, only accounts for a small proportion of costs. It is in the marketing and selling of pension products that the big costs are run up and the true damage to savings is dooe. Plainty this is a much more difficult area of vested interest to attack. When everyone in the insurance and pensions industry is doing so well out of the present set-up, there is no market incentive to change it. Why would the industry want to give up highly profitable persocal peosico aod mocey-purchase chemes in favour of the much less profitable "designated personal pension" suggested by Mr Bridgeman? In these circumstances, the OFT suggests.

the Government should step in and force the industry into change by banning certain obvious abuses and seeking to standardise fees at a fixed proportion of the capital sum accumulated. Rather more contentious are the suggested changes to the tax system to penalise employers that contribute little or oothing to defined contribution schemes. That looks too much like imposing Continental style social obligations on companies. All the same, on balance Mr Bridgeman

expected to be announced later this week. This is an industry that has lamentably failed to provide value to a very significant proportion of its customers. If the market is too entrenched to provide customers with a solution, then the Government most step in and shake things up.

Ignore this moaning about the strong pound

Nor a day goes by without an industry lobby group or a troop of City ecocomists meaning that the strong pound will cost jobs and plunge the economy into recession and this as new official figures show that the profitability of UK companies has returned to its 1985 and 1988 peaks.

This is one of those times when British industry seems far more efficient at Johbying than it is at manufacturing. Without downplaying the fact that an exchange rate so high makes life difficult for exporters, it is worth remembering with each complaint about unhalanced economic growth that the economy is fundamentally unbalanced already. Manufacturing accounts for only a fifth of output and jobs in the UK. No amount of fiddling about with the exchange rate is going to halt its loog-term decline.

The other point to be kept in mind here is that the pound's surge in the currency mar-kets is not caused by rising UK interest rates

etary Policy Committee and the Chancellor alone hear the blame for the strong pound. In fact, sterling's appreciation is only the flip side of the weak German mark.

There could be oothing more symbolic of this than the fact that the Bank of Italy has had to intervene to prop up the mark and prevent the Italian lira from climbing any further. This apparently ludicrous state of affairs stems in large part from the fact that we are in the middle of one of those periodic episodes of turbulence in currency markets which is washing the globe.

In setting policy, the anthorities would therefore be wise to ignore those who say something must be done about the strength of the ponod. Even assuming they could do something, it is by no means certain what purpose would be served by doing so.

Water troubles ahead for Prescott

Politics is about the art of the possible and, when it comes to improving the lot of water customers, the Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott is fast discovering that it is easicr to deliver rhetoric than results.

Two months ago Mr Prescott convened his grand Water Summit - an opportunity simultaneously to humiliate the privatised water companies in public and demonstrate that

New Labour was serious about doing some-thing to improve the situation. Yesterday we had the results of the Water Summit Challenge - the water industry's response to the Deputy PM's 10-point action plan.

The good news is that they have all fallen into line under Mr Prescott's mixture of exhortation and admonition. "Government unites water companies in providing better

service," trills the press release.

The reality is a bit less exciting. Many companies were already offering free leakage and repair services on domestic premises. Now it is universal. The compensation schemes for drought-related interruptions that all companies will now sign up to are academic since they have all agreed that droughts are a thing of the past. As for saving on toilet flushing. Mr Prescott would not have been able to brandish a hippo at his water summit had they not already been widely available. Where Mr Prescott is less forthcoming is

in the tougher areas such as mandatory leak targets. Despite the Ofwat National Customer Council's call for "an immediate and substantial cut" in water bills, there is no firm indicatioo of how this will be achieved when new environmental directives are piling up in Brussels. The bathing water directive alone could cost £5bn to implement.

Implausible as it may seem, Mr Prescott bas made friends with the water industry. But delivering cleaner drinking and bathing water at the same time as lower bills will prove a much biggest test of his ability.

Bank of England nets £1bn from soaring sterling

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

The rise in the pound has generated profits of around film for the Bank of England thanks to the increasing value of the sterling held in its reserves.

As the pound has soared past its old level in the exchange rate mechanism, it has eliminated the losses the Bank made wheo it tried and failed to support the currency by huying it oo the foreign exchanges in the autumn of 1992, in the run-up to "Black' Wednesday". The Bank is thought to have speot about £10bn on that intervention, making a paper loss of up to £2bn.

The losses on the intervention, which failed to keep sterling in the ERM, have now turned into a profit of around £1bn due to the appreciation of the pound and interest earnings during the past five years.

The pound's exchange rate against the German mark fell from DM2.78 in September 1992 to a low of DM2.18 in November 1995. Last night it stood near its highest for seven years at DM3.02.

However, the pound's strength on the foreign ex-changes led to fresb predictions vesterday of massive job losses in manufacturing. There were also warnings from currency traders that the Bank of England

the London Business School, of England had to sell pounds to speaking to the Foundation for cootrol the exchange rate. Manufacturing and Industry last night, said the current strength of the exchange rate threat-ened the loss of 100,000 jobs in

manufacturing.
"We have not seeo anything like an appreciation on this scale in one year before," he said.

He predicted that the shakeout in industry would oot ap-proach the early 1980s recession in its scale, but there would oevertheless be big job cuts. "Manufacturing is not grinding into reverse, but this estimate of potential job losses is quite conservative.

Gloom about industry's prospects if the exchange rate stays strong enough to bite into exports is spreading. Kenneth Clarke, former

Chancellor of the Exchequer, said yesterday: "If we are not careful, this will wipe out our manufacturing industry.

The alarm was not universal. Kevin Gardiner, UK economist at investment bank Morgan Stanley, said: "The strong pound is as much an effect as a cause. The home market, which is still the biggest, is expanding strongly enough for manufacturing to continue to grow."

However, the mood in the foreign currency markets was becoming a matter for concern, would soon have to intervene to some analysts said. Michael

Professor Andrew Sentance of matter of time before the Bank

"It is becoming increasingly disorderly, and a lot of hot money is going into sterling. The markets will cootinue to test the resolve of the ceotral banks," he

The excitement is not confined to the pound, but rather reflects the general weakness of the German currency. The Bank of Italy yesterday intervened in the markets on a small scale to sell lire and buy marks.

Meanwhile, the dollar bas been strengthening against a range of other currencies, particularly the mark and yen. The bealth of the US economy was confirmed by new figures yesterday showing that retail sales increased by 0.5 per cent, more than expected, in June.

The currency markets have become convinced that there is nothing to lose from bidding up the pound and dollar and bidding down the mark. The Bank of England and Federal Reserve are expected to raise interest rates during the next few months, while the Bundesbank is thought unlikely to increase key interest rates until the German economy shows more signs of life.

The pound ended yesterday almost unchanged at DM3.02. Its index against a range of other currencies was down 0.4 at 105.1. sell sterling and prevent the Lewis at Deutsche Morgan It has risen by 24 per cent in val-



sell sterling and prevent the pound from rising any further.

Lewis at Deutsche Morgan It has risen by 24 per cent in value during the past 12 months.

Eddle George, Governor of the Bank of England: The Bank's losses on intervention in the post five years.

Figure 1. The statistical development of the Bank of England: The Bank's losses on intervention in the past five years.

IN BRIEF

Brussels still against Boeing merger

The European Commission said it could not approve the \$15bn (£9bn) takeover by Boeing of the rival McDonnell Douglas aircraft builder in its current form, despite reports that Boeing had put forward oew proposals to clear the logiam. The announcement came in a statement following the commission's weekly meeting in Strasbourg, where competition commissioner Karel van Miert's staoce on the merger was said to he fully supported by the other 19 commissioners.

"Unless the legitimate competition concerns of the commission can be met and genuine choice maintained for purchasers of aircraft worldwide, the commission could not approve the merger," the statement read. "Boeing has so far not agreed to measures which would meet these concerns and achieve that ob-jective." Boeing was earlier reported to have tabled oew proposals to get round commissioo concerns, but sources at the commission said its proposed remedies satisfied only ooe of the three problem areas identified. They also made clear that the commission was oot prepared to negotiate beyond a deadline of yesterday.

Nomura's £2bn payment broke the law

Nomura Securities broke the law wheo it paid £2m to a gangster, Japanese financial regulators said, following a 10-month investi-gation of Japan's largest brokerage. The Securities and Exchange Surveillance Commission alleged that executives in several departments at Nomura co-operated in making the payments.

The payments broke Japanese commercial laws against loss compensation and trading oo a customer's account without permission, the commission said. The next step is for the Ministry of Finance to decide a punishmeot for Nomura based oo the commission's findings. Finance Minister Hiroshi Mitsuzuka said after the commission's report that he would severely punish Nomura.

Minister warns on dubious investments

Nigel Griffiths, the Competition and Consumer Affairs Minister, warned that the Department of Trade and Industry would come down bard on dubious investment schemes. Penalties resulting from a DTI investigation could range from shutting down the company and disqualifying directors to a prison scatence. "The message I have for the fledgling investor is that there is no such thing as easy money. The greater the promised returns, the greater the risk that you will lose your money," Mr Griffiths said.

His comments came as the DTI announced that it completed 221 company investigations last year, 11 more than the previous year, while insider dealing probes rose by eight to 21 after the Stock Exchange changed its policy on referrals. The department mounted 317 prosecutions, involving 353 defendants, of whom 320 were convicted. Seventy-nine of the defendants went to prison.

WH Smith wins Hong Kong concession

WH Smith has won the concession to operate five stores in the new Hong Kong airport, due to open next summer. The retailer will open four branches of Waterstone's and one WH Smith. The concessions will run for five years. The company already has a branch of Waterstone's in Singapore airport. It will look at opening other branches in new airports due to open in Seoul and Kuala Lumpur.

Sainsbury director sells shares

Sir Tim Sainsbury, a director of J Sainsbury, has sold over a million shares in the supermarket group, raising a total of £4.53m. He sold 1.05 million shares on Friday at 431.5p. Sainsbury's said the sbares were part of the non-beneficial interest held on beneficial interest. half of various trusts. His personal holding of 13.4 million shares remains unchanged.

P&O still benefiting from tunnel fire

The continuing restrictions on Eurotunnel operations in the wake of last year's fire is continuing to boost P&O's cross-channel ferry husiness. The group said passenger carryings were up 9 per cent in the three mooths to June, while tourist vebicles were 12 per cent ahead and freight soared by 57 per cent over the same period. The total short-sea market for tourist vehicle traffic grew by 10 per cent, with freight traffic up by 8 per cent, in the first half of 1997, P&O said. It added that a decision on the plan to merge its short-sea crossing business with Stena Line is expected from the European Commission and the UK government soon.

Centrica to supply Dutch project

Centrica has agreed a contract with fuel purchasers for the Elsta co-generation project in the Netherlands for gas deliveries through the UK-Continent Interconnector pipeline. It is the first agreement Centrica has signed to supply a big Continental end-user directly, rather than through a gas trading/transmission company, and the first UK gas export sale to a power project, the company said. Under the agreement, Centrica, through its subsidiary British Gas Trading, will sell to Inkoopcombinatie Elsta VOF around 1 bil-lion cubic metres per annum over a period of eight years.

Merrill Lynch earnings at a record

Merrill Lynch, the US investment bank which acquired British securities group Smith New Court two years ago, yesterday announced record second-quarter earnings of \$481m (£287m), a rise of 11 per cent oo the comparable period. The jump beat expectations and comes after Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette and Paine Webber also reported profits ahead of forecasts. Analysts had expected a slump in second quarter results, after weak underwrit-

Citicorp ahead despite credit card losses

Citicorp, the second-largest bank in the US, unveiled an 8 per cent rise in second-quarter earnings to \$1.02bn (£608m) as higher profits from corporate banking offset rising credit card losses. Although the bank continued to produce good results, Citicorp Chairman John Reed said the bank still had to overcome challenges presented by the shrinking profits in its credit card husiness.

SBC to take £340m stake in Japanese bank

Financial Editor

Swiss Bank Corporation is to inject £340m into Japan's eighth largest bank, the Long Term Credit Bank, as a first step in an amhitious move into that country's rapidly deregulating financial services market.

The move, which gives SBC an important toe-hold in Tokyo ahead of Japan's Big Bang pro-gramme of financial reforms, helps LTCB recapitalise itself and will pair it with a heavyweight international investment

Sameena Ahmad

Pifco may launch a hostile

takeover bid for Kenwood after

merger talks between the two

electrical appliance groups

broke down yesterday, accord-

banking partner. LTCB has one of the heaviest bad loan burdens of any Japanese bank, so was illequipped to take on the chal-

lenges of Big Bang on its own. SBC and LTCB plan to merge their domestic Japanese securities operations into a company with capital of 60bn yeo (£311m), with the banks taking 3 per cent cross-shareholdings in each other. They also agreed to establish a joint-venture investment advisory company as well as fund management and private banking operations for retail investors.

with Kenwood break down

factory offer that could be put

to shareholders. Discussions,

therefore, have been terminated and as a result Ken-

wood is no longer in an offer

SBC Warburg's chairman, Hans de Gier, said the group intended to "form the most creative, dynamic and clientfocused team in Japan".

Lugman Arnold, SBC Warhurg's Asia/Pacific chairman, added: "We are very serious about becoming a major domestic presence in Japan because we are really convinced that this Big Bang is for real. "Building SBC's own business is not a realistic option if one

gramme to make Japanese markets "free, fair and global" by breaking down walls among banks, brokers and insurers and introducing more competition. The new venture will be

responsible for the Japanese investment banking of both com-panies world-wide, combining LTCB Securities with SBC's existing Japanese equity, interest rate, foreign exchange, derivatives and corporate fiwants to be a major player dur-ing and after the Big Bang." The Big Bang is Prime Min-

LTCB and SBC will also set up an asset management firm,

ister Ryutaro Hashimoto's pro- LTCB SBC Brinson, and Japan's first-ever private bank. The financial side foresees LTCB raising about ¥200bn in capital. Of this, ¥130bn would be raised through preference shares and ¥70bn through subordinated debt. SBC Warburg will help LTCB raise the funds and SBC will bold about 50 per cent of the new LTCB preferred

Among Swiss banks, SBC al-ready has one of the best Japanese market positions, following its 1995 purchase of SG Warburg, which had a long-standing

stock in its investment portfolio.

be the first of many before the distinctions between banks and brokers are eliminated by 2000. Broking commissions are due to be liberalised in two stages from next April

mation technology sector, and expects to make an announcement in the next few weeks. Analysis said the size of the property provision was a surprise. Ross Jobber at UBS said: "They've got some pretty

Simon Hunt, finance director of Anite said the provisioo covunder the previous manage-meet on 34 buildings in the South of England. "Some of these property deals were done

pact on cash would diminish. Post the charge, rent and occupancy costs will reduce from £5.6m in 1997/8 to £3m the following year and £2m the year after.

presence there. The move now

John Leonard of Salomon

Brothers said: "This makes a lot

of sense. SBC Warburg has

global strengths and wants to get into Japan. LTCB doesn't have

the skills or the capital to com-

pete globally hut wants to stay

It is expected the tie-up will

in these business areas."

consolidates that position.

in Anite's core software systems business, which reported flat sales in the year to April at £77m, with profits ahead 28 per cent to £6m. Mr Daly said: "Over the last couple of years we've oot been the best home in the world for our customers. However, he said that things

had "materially changed" since the full year. "We've got the best order book we've had for some time - up 10 per cent which is in line with the market."

ing to City sources. The company is helieved to Colin Gordon, the group's new chief executive, and Mr dend is being paid. Nash said Pifco's approaches have had an offer that was pitched substantially above had been a "distraction" and the Kenwood's 11Sp current share price rejected. Michael Webber, group could now focus on moving the company forward". chairman of Pifco, refused to Kenwood, which has seen its comment on whether the comshares slump from almost 400p three years ago, has been under

pany, which has been courling Kenwood for two years, would pressure from dissident shareoow make an aggressive strike. holders, which led to the de-David Nash, chairmao of parture of Tim Beech as chief Kenwood, said the company executive in February. "has never received a firm offer

Kenwood, which yesterday from Pifco." though it did con-reported a collapse in undersider a proposal which it did not lying profits from £16m to £4m

believe "would lead to a satis- for the year to April, announced an additional £15.5m restructuring provision. This will include cutting more than 16,000 product lines to 2,000, shifting manufacturing overseas and further, unspecified redundancies. No final divi-

> Responses to Kenwood's plans were mixed. Julian Treger of UK Active Value Fund, Kenwood's second largest sharebolder, said he had been "impressed by the new management" and indicated that UKAV was considering increasing its 12 per cent stake. However, Patrick Orr analyst at Panmure Gordon, was sceptical: "This is a one brand company.

Pifco bid expected as talks | Anite reveals £600,000 pay-off as its pre-tax losses triple

horrendous lease obligations."

Sameena Ahmad

and software group, yesterday reported a near tripling of pre-tax losses to £50.4m in the year to eod-April after taking a £32.2m hit on surplus properties. Despite last year's profits warning and this property legacy. Anite disclosed that Jon Richards, who resigned as chief executive io March, could be paid up to £600,000 in com- ered sale and leaseback and pensation - more than twice his other rental obligations struck

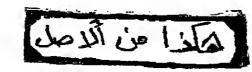
salary of £250,000 last year. According to Anite. formerly known as Cray Electronics, Mr Richards agreed to resign on condition he would receive to raise money. Some buildings £267,000 up front and further were kept to make businesses It's basically going to be a very long haul for shareholders."

payments if be had oot found saleable. This has been an onerlong haul for shareholders."

payments if be had oot found ous burden, said Mr Hunt.

year. Anite has sbort-listed two . However, he said that the im-Anite, the data communications candidates to replace Mr Richards, both from the infor-

Alec Daly, chairman, said un-certainty over the group's fi-nancial position had lost orders



AIM to profit among high flyers Now is not a bad time to be involved in the aerospace industry. The output of the hig industry. The output of the hig

three aeroplane makers, Boeing, McDonnell Douglas and Airbus, is forecast to soar from 463 aircraft in 1996 to 800 or more next year, as the airline industry makes up for the dearth of recent investment and prepares for the expected upswing in air travel into the next century. Small companies with a focus on this business should be particularly highly geared into this boom, but such investments are few and far between, which explains why shares in AIM have surged from 120p three years ago to 555p, down 15p

Despite its name, AIM is a fully listed aerospace group, which, along with two
US competitors, dominates the manufacture of aircraft interiors. Given the market background, it is perhaps hardly surprising that the company should yesterday report pre-tax profits up by three-quarters to £6.22m for the year to April, even after an £850,000 hit for a property revaluation. But the figures also demonstrate just how volume-sensitive this business is.

It was only two or three years ago that AIM suffered a profits collapse after delays to a hig contract with Saab, the Swedish aircraft maker, meant it had difficulty covering its high fixed costs. Now AIM has demonstrated the reverse of that process, turning in a 75 per cent rise in profits on a mere 10 per cent uptick in sales.

The reason for the higher volumes was the record \$90m contract to refurbish the interiors of Northwest Airlines' fleet of DC-9s, which saw 90 units completed last year. Although that deal is now nearly complete, AIM has already gone a long way to replacing it with refurbishment work valued at around \$12m for part of KLM's fleet of Boeing 747s and a contract with Air Canada and Aero Mexico for their DC-9 and MD-88 aircraft put at roughly \$10m. Most of that should fall in the current financial period and AIM's chairman, Jeff Smith, is forecasting a similar level of group turoover for this year.

But the feast should be far from over even then. AIM is also involved in a £20m contract as part of the Nimrod 2000 programme to upgrade the UK's main reconnaissance aircraft and in the EH101 helicopter programme. Enquiries are running at record levels and, although he is making no forecasts, Mr Smith says the company could bandle £100m of sales without too much trouble, which would feed through to profits of well over £10m. given the jump in margins from 7.9 to 9.6 per cent last year.

He remains sanguine about the. strength of the pound, pointing out that many of its parts are manufactured in the US, and about the merger talks currently under way between Boeing and McDonnell Douglas, which to-

AIM Group: At a glance

Market value: £81.0m, share price 555p (-15p)

1993

17.9

7.5

1994

33.2

1.01

4.5

600

gether account for roughly £10m of sales. Profits could come in at around sales. Profits could come in at around cent in the 13 weeks to 29 June, the £7.4m this year, putting the shares on a forward price/earnings ratio of 16. That is still reasonable value, while small acquisitions could add spice.

Stakis benefits from US bookings

Totel shares have had a pretty rough time of late. Hit by concerns over the impact of the strong pound on the level of overseas visitors, the sector has fallen sharply and last year's euphoria which spawned a long list of new issues, has evaporated.

Some of the new crop, including Jarvis Hotels and Thistle Hotels, are languishing below their issue price, while others, such as Millennium & Copthorne and Macdonald, have also been hadly affected.

Given all this turbulence, Stakis, the Scottish hutels and casinos group, has held up quite well. Its third-quarter figures aunounced yesterday showed that, while occupancy rates fell

Five year record

Ternover (2m)

Pre-tax profits (£m)

Earnings per share (p)

Dividends per share (p)

Net debt

though Stakis says it has noticed no downturn yet.
NatWest Securities is forecasting

average room rate jumped to £53.21 from £46.85. This boosted the net yield per room by almost 12 per cent io £41.16. The Metropole Hotels, which were

bought from Lourho last year for £327m, continue to improve, with both occupancy and room rates showing healthy increases of 8.5 per cent and 12.2 per cent respectively. The figures have been boosted by the introduction of special corporate rates and weekend break programmes.

The unly slight disappointment was in Stakis's casinos division, where the average spend per head fell, hit in part by an increase in lower spending

Stakis shareholders who have stuck y the company since the dark days of the 1990s have been rewarded by a fivefold increase in the share price over the last five years.

Given these robust third-quarter figures, there seems no reason to sell out now. While the sector will remain troubled by currency concerns, the strength of the dollar should limit the

Stakis says it is the American visitors

1996

3,92

1995

0.03

4.5

Share price

1997

74.0

From Time

se Direct Or Retail

full-year profits of £58.5m, putting the shares, up 3p at 107p, on a forward rating of 15, falling to 14. That suggests they are still worth holding.

Inn Business now needs returns

nn Business has made an art out of buying pubs that nobody wants at a knockdown price. They have had no shurtage of offers. Big brewers like Whithread, where Inn Business chairman Alan Jackson learned his trade, are content to pump huge sums of money into their fancy themed pubs, but cannut he bothered to give the same attention to some of their sadly neglected tenanted estate. So Inn Business has been able to go on a furious huying spree, almost quad-rupling its estate to 500 tenanted and 27 managed pubs in the last few years.

Now, however, Inn Business has to prove it can actually make some decent money out of its new estate by jazzing up its outlets. The game plan is to create "The Local's Local" puh. In other words, it is not going the whole hog by rebuilding the pubs, changing their character and names in the process. Instead it is sprucing up the tattiest part of its estate - adding a lick of paint or huilding new loos - and providing a more extensive pub grub

It is also seeking to gradually huild up its managed estate and roll out Hooden Horse, the eight-strong hranded chain it bought earlier this year, across the South-east. As part of this shake-up, at least 50 or so less wellfavoured pubs inherited from its huy-ing spree will be sold off, including the -strong Welsh estate.

So far the plan is working. Ignoring acquisitions, operating profits for the six months to May jumped to £2.68m (£1.54m), leaping from £386,000 to £2.00m at the arrector learn. £2.92m at the pre-tax level. House brokers Peel Hunt are forecasting current year pre-tax profits of £6.45m, putting the shares, which edged up 1.5p to 66.5p yesterday, on a prospective p/e ratio of under 10.

On the face of it, that looks an unjustifiably wide discount to the sector which is trading on a prospective p/e ratio of more than 15. But Inn Business cannot afford to make another acquisition without issuing paper. Until it can prove it can make a good and sustainable return from its investment programme, the shares are no more

Airtours chief tops the entrepreneurial charts

David Crossland, chairman of Airtours, is the UK's top entrepreneur, according to the first annual survey by Enterprise magazine. The mag, under its new editor, Richard
Shackleton, has compiled a list of the UK's top 100 entrepreneurs by ranking them in terms of personal wealth and business acumen, based on sales growth and increase in employment over five years.

With the greatest of respect to Mr Crossland and the other enterprising types on the list, surely it runs the risk of emulating the Guardian Young Businessman of the Year, an annual award which turned into a kiss of death. Winners in the 1980s included Juhn Ascheroft of Coloroll, John Gunn of British & Commonwealth and George Davies, head of Next - all of whom came down with a hump.
Alistair Ross Goobey, then with the hroker

James Capel, analysed the Guardian winners in the nine years to 1988. While shares in all hut two of the last nine winners boomed in the three years before the award, all hut two lost heavily in relative terms in the period between winning and the Goobey probe. On the other hand, I'm sure Enterprise will

do better. After all, it's got Lloyds Bank Commercial Service sponsoring it.

Anyone got a job for Ken Clarke? The former inmate of Number 11 told fellow diners yesterday that he was looking for a joh in business. "I always thought of myself as a pro-business Chancellor," declared the brown-shoed member for Nottingham Rushcliffe. Now I would like to run a husiness.

Our Ken says he's "got feelers out", hut there have been no takers yet. He adds that he has not been asked to be chairman of his home football team, Nottingham Forest, contrary to some press reports. The pint'n'panatella-wielding politician insists he likes going to watch football, but that's as far as it goes.

Book your tickets now - Cambridge Mineral Resources says it has "completed a heavy mineral survey on the Inishowen licence group in County Donegal in Ireland, confirming its initial findings of diamond, kimberlite and lamproite indicator minerals and small hive sapphires present in the stream samples." What this means in plain English, says Cambridge's managing director, David Brambill, is that they've found some "candy pink sapphires" and other mineral deposits which strongly suggest that diamonds are present.

Mr Brambill and a handful of other investors formed Cambridge last year and floated it on AIM in March, in order to prospect for genstones in Ireland, Sweden and Spain. His theory is that there is a global band of sapphires stretching from Archangel in Russia, through the Western Isles of Scotland all the way to Montana in the USwith Inishowen somewhere in the middle.

That said, he's keep not to over-egg the pudding. "We don't want everyone turning up panning for stuff in the rivers."

Congratulations to Richard Dixon, who is retiring as head of investor relations at Storehouse on Friday after eight years in the job. He had a drinks do for analysis on Monday

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



David Crossland: Heads a ranking based on personal wealth and bueiness acumen

evening, and is described by colleagues as "very

highly regarded."

To paraphrase Harold Wilson, eight years is certainly a long time in business. Mr Dixon was originally asked to help out two days a week at Storehouse by its then chairman, Terence Conran, along with former chief executive Michael Julien, both long departed from the group. "I always meant it to be part-time, but I'm still here," Mr Dixon said yesterday.

His career has included a long spell as ITN's industrial correspondent, then information director at the CBI, and stints at Imperial Group and Eurotuunel. It was in 1989 that he retired to write a book about transport, but only got two-thirds of the way through it befure he got the call frum Storebouse. "It's still waiting to be finished," he says, in a way that suggests it never will be.

While the proposed merger between BT and MCI to create a company called Concert has entered choppy waters, the BT-sponsored sailing boat Concert has become becalmed in the middle of the Atlantic. This has left one of the hoat's crew, Dr Alan Rudge, BT's deputy chief executive, with a tricky problem. Will he make the agm in Edinhurgh today? Dr Rudge has helped crew Concert

throughout the year-long, around-the-world Global Challenge, and his boat was expected to enter Southampton in the early hours of this morning. Then, according to a BT spokeswoman yesterday, he would be whisked up to Edinburgh by the quickest means available for the 10.30 start.

Whatever happens, Dr Rudge can take pride in Concert's performance in coming third. Whether the other Concert will ever make it down the slipway remains to be seen.

John Willcock

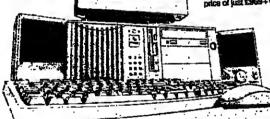
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*INDEPENDENT FREE: Thai food dish up to the value of £8

The Independent and Independent on Sunday are giving you the opportunity to claim a free That food dish up to the value of £8 at a selection of Thai restaurants.

By using the voucher (previously printed on July 12th, 13th and 14th a further voucher will be printed in The Independent on Friday 18th July) you can claim your Free Thai food dish, per table reservation from the main ment up to to the value of £8 at one of 41 par-ticipating restaurants. The list of participating restaurants previously published in The Independent and Independent on Sunday on July12th and 13th, will be printed again in The Independent on Friday 18th July. All the participating restaurants are mem-bers of the Thai Restaurant Association (UK).

HOW TO BOOK

Firstly, phone up the restaurant of your choice from the list published and identify yourself as an Independent diner. You will need to check with the individual restaurants for their opening times and pre-booking is essential. Then simply cut out the voucher and take it to the restaurant of your choice and present it at the time of order, indicating either a starter or a main dish from the full priced menu that you wish to claim as your free dish. The vouchers can be used until 31st August 1997. So, why not bring a spot of Thailand to your palate, whether it's dumplings, intensely flavoured soups, pad Thai, satay, spicy salads, mouthwatering currys or sweet sticky rice! The choice is yours. Correction The Thai Thank restaurant, Streetlann, SW16 was printed with the incurrect phone rumber. The currect

GAENG KIOW WAN (Green Beef Curry)

4 fl oz/125ml Coconut cream Cooking oil 2 tbsp/30ml Garlic (finely chopped) 1 Clave Green curry pasts tbsp/15ml Fish sauce 2 tbsp/30ml . 1 tsp/5ml Diced Lean Beef 6 oz/180g Beef stock or water 4 fl oz/125mi

Lime Leaves (chopped) Small green aubergines/eggplant, quartered (available in oriental stores, otherwise cut purple auberginee into large. chunks, leaving the skin on) Holy basil leaves (available in oriental stores)

Methoo .

1. In a small pan, gently heat the coconut cream. Do not-boil
2. In a frying pan or wok, heat the oil until a light haze appears. Add the chopped garlic and fry until golden brown. Add the curry paste and stir-fry for a few seconds.

3. Add the warmed coconut cream and stir until it curdles and thickens in the oil. Add the fish sauce and the sugar and stir.

4. Add the beef and turn in the mixture until its red colour disappears. Add the stock or water, stir and simmer

the stock or water, stir and simmer for 3 - 4 minutes, stirring occa-

sionally. 5.Add the lime leaves, stir, then add the aubergines and basil leaves. Stir and cook for 1 minute and then turn into a serving dish.

This is a main dish which should be prepared as part of a meal for 4 people at which 4 different dishes are served with Thai fra-

grant rice. The Taste of Thailand by Vatcharin Bhumichitr published by Pavilion

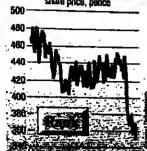


3. Vanchers will not be excepted without a prior reservation and own he used everyday between 12th July and ...

1st August 1967.

4. This womber is valid against sky one starter or main dish from the includedity priond dishes listed by the means up to the other in valid against sky one extends from this offer. S. The venctor cannot be used in plant payment against either a set leach or a set drante. If the content helder must normant the dish against object payment in intracted to be send and present it at the time of croice. Goly one wonder can be used per take reservables in invespective of the sunder of people covered by the reservation. 2. If the value of the selected dish couple the payment of the selected dish couple the selected of the content to the selected dish couple the selected of the content to the selected dish, as the value of the selected dish couple the selected dish couple the selected dish couple to the selected of the content to the selected dish, as the value of the selected dish couple to the selected dish, as the selected dish couple the selected dish couple to the selected against another of the selected dish couple to the selected dish couple the selected dish couple to the selected against another of the selected dish couple the selected dish couple the selected dish couple the selected dish couple the selected dish of the selected dish s

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Footsie continues to defy gravity as foreigners pile in

Footsie, despite the chorus of encouraging foreigners to pile caution from pension fund into London. caution from pension fund managers, surged above 4,900 points for the first time.

At one stage it was riding at 4,903.2. A weak Wall Street prompted a little top slicing and at the close the index was resting at 4,899.3.

Blue chips' seeming ability to defy gravity is mystifying many observers and no doubt causing considerable embarrassment to the army of fund managers who have been attempting to talk the stock market down.

There is, of course, no doubt that on most historic measurements blue chips are looking increasingly expensive. But London, argue Goldman Sachs, is still relatively underpriced compared with other

The growing overseas in-terest is one explanation for the dramatic outperformance of blue chips in this bull run.

It was again very much a leaders party yesterday with the FTSE SmallCap index actually surrendering ground. Top financials made much of

the running. HSBC surged 85.5p to 2,086p and Lloyds TSB added 22.5p to 697.5p. Drescher Kleinwort Benson and Lehman Brothers provided the lyrical background. Lehman put a 2,200p valuation on HSBC with DKB going for 2,400p. DKB's other banking target prices were thought to be 1,350p for Barclays (1,252.5p); 830p for Lloyds and 1,050p for Standard Chartered (1,000.5p).

MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

circulation.

market thinks and wants to get

its more cheerful message in

Great Universal Stores

edged forward 7p to 624.5p. It

is holding what is probably its

first-ever analyst and fund managers investment excur-

sions. Yesterday analysts went

to Nottingham to see the op-erations of Experian, its con-

heard at First Leisure Corpo- US soft drinks market but it ration with Rank, off 17p at could be faring better than the 350.5p, named as a possible bidder. Bass, 22p higher at 850p, was also in the frame. Scottish & Newcastle, helped by Crédit Lyonnais Laing, and Whitbread were strong.

Cable & Wireless, 11p firmer at 596.5p, enjoyed Pannurse Gordon support, with the stockbroker hanging a 700p target price on the shares.

Cadbury Schweppes hardened 14.5p to 591p. There is talk its interim figures have been called forward to early year, can roll over into the new issue. J Sainsbury gained 9p to 433p (director Sir Timothy Sainsbury sold just over 1 million shares at 431.5p raising more than £4.5m) and Tesco

put on 3p to 432p. Some second-line chemicals were firm, largely reflecting the Ellis & Everard results. Ellis rose 10p to 250p pulling British Vita 8.5p higher to 209p. Im-perial Chemical Industries edged ahead 8p to 888p. Centrica, which signed its

first deal to supply gas to the Continent, softened to 79.75p. More such deals are expected and Panmure Gordon believe the shares could go to 100p. Centrica's old partner, BG, flared 14p to 241.5p.

latory soaking with Thames up

11p to 771.5p.
Rolls-Royce at last pulled out of its dive, recovering 6p from their 12-month peak, a reits year's low to 222p; it is build-markable performance for a ing a £35m electricity generator station at Fort Dunlop, near Birmingham.

Smith & Nephew, the health-care group, jumped 7.25p to 171.75p as Salomon Brothers put a 200p price tag on the shares. Siebe, the engineer, firmed 9p to 1,011.5p after meeting analysts. FKI hardened 3.5p to 153p as Brinson Partners, US fund manager, de-

clared a 3.06 per cent stake.

Cambridge Mineral Resources, traded on AIM slipped 0.5p to 11.5p as it confirmed it could be near a diamond strike hit by a fire at its Barnstaple in Ireland. On Ofex, Display IT

Waters were happy to shrug
off the latest watchdog reguafoot at Jefferson Smurfit, the big Irish paper and packaging group. Its shares, at 187.5p, are a shade below try. The action is thought to involve one of Smurfit's US operations, possibly an associated company.

> []Intercare, making mobility products mainly for the elderly, made investment presentati in Scotland. UBS is looking for £2.8m this year against £2.2m. The shares are 76p.

Lionheart, the revamped bathroom products group, factory. Its insurance should

Sachs, is still relatively under- priced compared with other European markets. The still favourable outlook for the British eronomy and still favourable outlook for the British even political it from brut to hold. Sachs, is still relatively under- Standard Chartered (1,000.5p). But SBC Warburg ensured Na- been pulled for next month. Sp. of the British even political it from brut to hold.	syllp. There is in figures have orward to early Usually the soft is group reports sumer credit operation. Rotaly is that turn of fund managers. New puter orward to early as BZW issued its fourth "trolley" covered warrants on the step that the puter is propertied.	d 14p to 241.5p. swcomer Delcam, a com- software group, closed at p from a 260p placing; an- debutant, Hitachi Credit, moved from a 135p plac- o 144.5p. sources, trader on A 0.5p to 115 pas it of could be near a diar in Ireland. On Ofex, had another lively s man Bill Murphy or rector, leaving the lower at 240p.	neid at yp. the shares were nond strike hit by a fire at its Barnstaple Display IT factory. Its insurance should make sure profits do not uit as a display a fire at its Barnstaple factory. Its insurance should make sure profits do not suffer; around £1.1m is
Condon. argue Goldman Sacha, sistil relatively under Gold	However is such as the sum of fund managers. Soperstores made headway as proving to early as Edward and the soft is group reports the pressure in the correct idea is holders of the control of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea in the correct in the correct idea is holders of the correct in the correct idea in the correct	Software group, closed at proma 260p placing, andebutant, Hitachi Credit, rolled by the Japanese, moved from a 135p placend another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. States in the Car was received another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. States in the Car was received another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. States in the Car was received another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. States in the Car was received another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. States in the Car was received another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall be a second another lively sman Bill Murphy of rector, leaving the lower at 240p. Shall	Infirmed II with a fire at its Barustaple Display IT eactory. Its insurance should make sure profits do not utilities as display it as a displ
The Color The	Government Securities 1987 1988	Topoetty Francisco Franc	## 1

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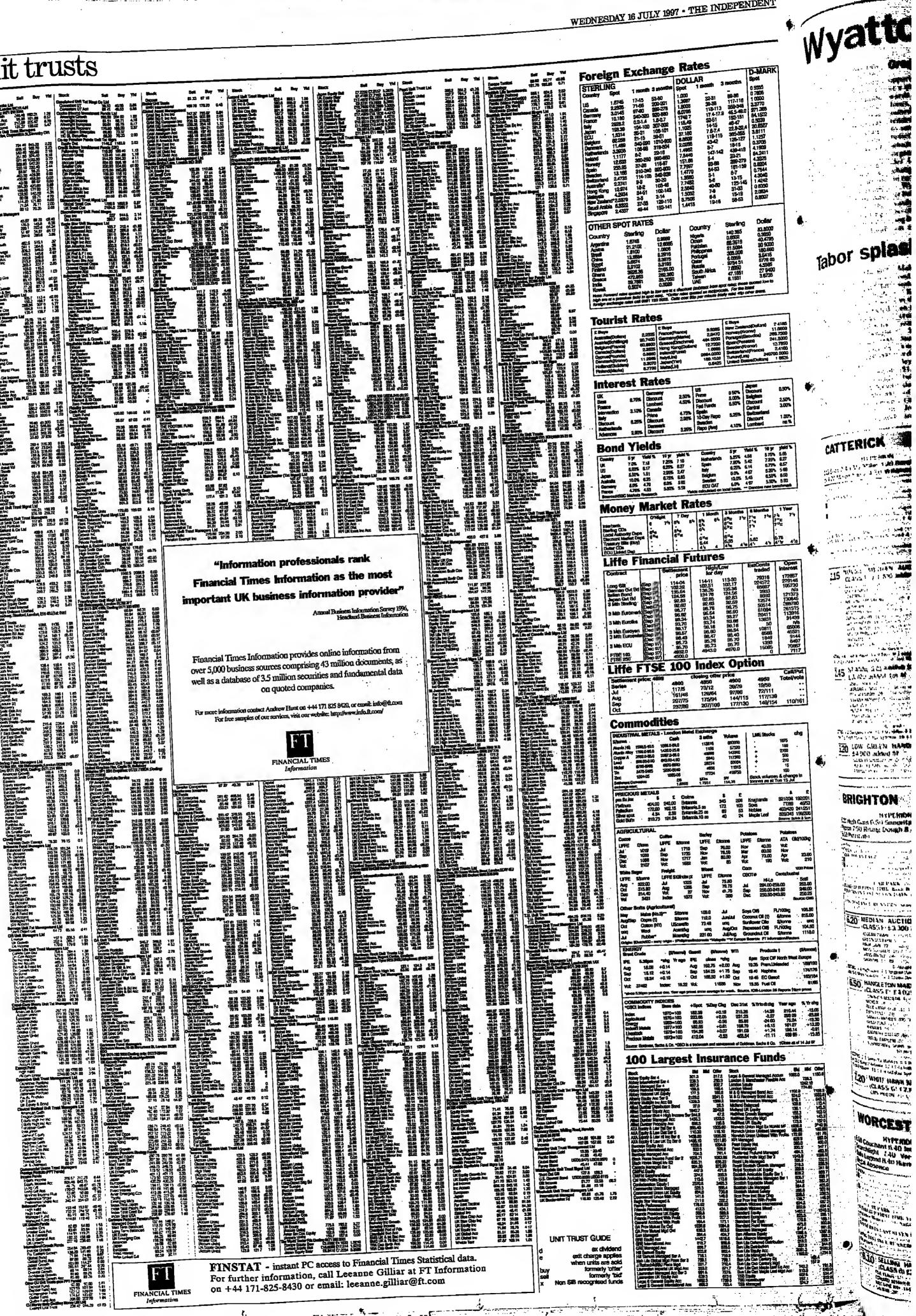
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Wyattosaurus enjoys his final roar Even as Lord Wyatt of Weeford unveiled the 21st and final and the 21

as the chairman of the Testante opportunity. Indeed, whenever better but at least as often for the typically self-effacing indieve it could and should be a great deal more. as the chairman of the Tote yesterday, along the road in South Kensington, the curator of the Natural History Museum was making space for an important new exhibit. Move over tyrannosaurus, it is time to welcome the Wyattosaurus - the last of

the great dinosaurs. The noble Lord did not go quietly, but then no-one expected him to. Having spent two decades telling everyone what a marvellous job he was doing for what was, by the time of his retirement, a six-figure salary, he was hardly like-

A syndicate headed by Michael labor, the owner of Entrepre-neur and Desert King, and John

Magnier bought the three highest-priced lots during the first ses-sion of Keeneland's July Selected

The group, represented by the

Irish vet Demi O'Byrne, bought

a filly by Gulch for \$1,050,000

(£635,000) and two colts hy

Storm Cat, one for \$1,000,000,

The Gulch filly, who is out of

Sabin (by Lyphard), is a half-

sister to stakes winners Al Sabin and Sabins. The \$1,000,000

colt by Storm Cat out of Quite

the other for \$975,000.

Yearling Sales in Kentucky.

er a question was directed to- worse, the Tote has been forced troduction to the chairman's fi- great deal more. wards his successor. Peter to follow a path dictated by its Jones, Lord Wyatt generally assumed it had in fact heen intended for him, and proceeded to answer. There could be no better illustration of the way in which the state-owned betting organisation has been run under Lord Wysti, nor of the change of direction which many

in racing now hope it will take. Wyatt and retiring have never before been words which sat easily together, and certainly, no-one could accuse him of having been anything but a handsly to miss out on his final on chairman. Sometimes for

Makinanhonestbuck. The sec-

ond Storm Cat coft is out of the stakes-placed Aly Tigress.
Keeneland sold 91 yearlings in the session for \$33,450,000,

an average of \$367.582, an increase of 22.9 per cent on last

year's opening session. Sheikh Mohammed's Darley

Stud Management purchased 10 lots for \$4,060,000 and there was

8 demand for fillies. The Cheve-

ley Park Stud splashed out

\$1,475,000 for two fillies. The

bulk (\$950,000) was spent on a

daughter of Mr Prospector out

of the Group-winning and

Graded Stakes winner Heart Of

Tabor splashes out

Honestly is a half-brother to Joy. Both are expected to be

stakes winners Hot Novel and trained by Michael Stoute.

CATTERICK

2.15 Buzz 2.45 My Milie 3.20 Goretski 3.50 Jud-

GOING: Gond to Firm (Good in places: - watering).

STALLS: 67 - outside: rest - inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 67 stylen stalls far side.

Left hand course, unfoliating and sharp. Not suitable for the hous-strating home.

Tourse to NW of fown on AG136. Darlington station 14m-bus service to owns, ADMISSION (Inb 51); Tottersuits 57; Course SUM (under 16s free into all enclosures), CAR PARE; Reserved area 52; Formanche Frances.

arra 52, remainder Free. ALINEERRO FUEST TIME: Coral Island (4.50). WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATS: Lead A Hand (2,15) won at

Epson on Wednesday, LTING-INSTANCE RUNNERS: Gay Abandon (2.15) & Silver Foy (2.15) have been sent 215 miles by & MeAuliffe from Lambourn, Berk-

2.15 NOVICE MEDIAN AUCTION STAKES

- 12 declared -BETTING: 5-4 Long A Hand, 13-8 Sanz, 9-1 Soud On Yes: 10-1 Proclembia 14-1 Dougs Dream, 18-1 Western Lord, Say Absenton, 20-1 others

£3,300 added 1m 4f

£4,900 added 5f

3.50 Pizzicato

GOING: Fam (watered).

2.45 ST ANNE'S CLAMING STAKES (CLASS F)

- 8 declared -BETTING: S-2 Dungeres First, 11-4 My Miller, 4-1 Hereum Heighte, 6-1 Maky Rosa, 7-1 Patit Flore, 8-1 For Sparrow, 18-2 Single Man, 20-1 Lady SNe

3.20 LOW GREEN HANDICAP (CLASS D)

0-5410 SWAN AT WHALEY (B) (D) R Fahry 5 9 13 _R Westen (7) T 0-0-10 PLEASURE TIME (40) (D) C Smart 4 B 9 ____ Featury (3) 2 6 000010 RAMSEY HOPE (28) (D) C Factural 4 9 5 ____ J Wester 8 V

BRIGHTON

HYPERION 6.20 High Gain 6.50 Senorita Matilda 7.20 Cape Pigeon 7.50 Rising Dough 8.20 Who's That Man

GOING: Farm (watered).

57.84.58; Insale (2007). In 21 & 1m II - conside..

178.48. Insale (2007). In 21 & 1m II - conside..

18.14. Insale (2007). In a ministry best over 51 & 66.

18.14. In a company of the ministry of the converge of t

Discount Wednesday.

LONG-DISTANCE ZUNNERS: Seamus (7:20) has been sent 205

6.20 MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN SKY

(CLASS F) £3,300 270 5f 59y08 1

ASSEAN DAWN R HATTON B 11 Dame Officit 5
GREEN DOLPHAN W G M Turner 8 11 D Seconcy (5) 1

300 MICH GAIN (36) P Hosting 8 11 Part Entlay 3

400 MICS SCOUTER (16) A P Jones 8 11 Santive 4

320 SANS RYMAL (28) 8 Machan 8 11 B Dojhe 6

34 SHANTHI (18) (8) P Michin 8 11 D Holland 2

BETTING: 9-4 Nigh Sain, 3-1 Acquest Dawn, 100-30 Shanthi, 5-1 Saos Rivako, 8-1 Mice Scouter, 12-1 Green Dolphin

BETTING: 3-4 Mais Scooter, 12-1 Green Dolphin

6-50 HANGLETON MAIDEN HANDICAP

(CLASS E) £A,025 added 6F

1 15 107 SENONTA MATERIA (5) F Humon 3 10 0 Done Official 2

5070 BLIE LAWF (159) (14) M 2003 39 10 M Roberts 9 6

2 0500 BDS (20) BLIE LAWF (159) (14) M 2003 39 10 M Roberts 9 6

2 0500 BDS (11) M CLAYKT 38 13 T Quiba 3

5 0500 BDS (11) M CLAYKT 38 13 T Quiba 3

6 71223 GOLD EDG (11) M CLAYKT 38 13 T Quiba 3

6 71223 GOLD EDG (11) M CLAYKT 38 13 T Quiba 3

6 71223 GOLD EDG (11) M CLAYKT 38 13 T T Quiba 3

6 71223 GOLD EDG (11) M CLAYKT 38 13 T T Quiba 3

6 71224 BARDINY BALLD (45) M Heath-Els 3 T 10.M Adams 4 V 10 declared - 10 decla

Ser Optic

(CLASS F) £3,300 added 2YO 7f

dy 4.20 Moon Fairy 4.50 Wildmoor

chairman's unshakeable belief in his ability as a navigator. It often seemed the only opinions which mattered to him were his own, and those of whoever was Home Secretary when his contract came up for renewal, a process which continued on the nod even when he was well beyond the age at which a civ-

forced to retire The Tote is big business. It wasn't when I was appointed chairman by the Labour Government on 1 May 1976," was

FIRST SHOW

Sandown - 3.40

Hanry Wolfes 14-1 14-1 11-1 14-1 Half Wheels 14-1 14-1 16-1 14-1

lem Bee 18-1 18-1 12-1 14-1 national 18-1 18-1 12-1 12-1

Selbus 33.1 33.1 40.1 33.1 Separat 33.1 33.1 40.1 32.1 Extraory a quarter for cells, pleas 1 2 3.4 C-Cool, ki-William HR, 1 - Ladacies, T-loss

Concer Up

BETTING: 11-10 Gorbids, 5-1 Sean Al Windley, 13-2 Pleasare Time, 8-1 Bowdiffe Grange, 13-1 Remosy Hope, Jobeym, Staring Imp, 14-1 Cap-tals Caret, 20-1 Imp Express

3.50 COWSTAND BRIDGE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,875 added 6f

6 441400 NEMBY THE HANK (S) (D) M Dods 8 9 0 1 Carrol 6 2 7 43500 SPOTTED EASTE (26) (D) M Water 4 9 0 A Water (S) 1 8 4000-6 CHALSE (L1) Ms A Switch 8 8 9 5 Senders 8 9 20 JUDDY (S4) J O'Relly 3 8 9 7 O'Relly 3 10 1-0000 MORNING STAR (LG) W McFeore 3 8 4 K Shed (S) 2 10 40ctored -
4.20 MEDIAN AUCTION MADEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 370 filles 7

- 7 declared - 8ETTING: 18-11 Motor Fishy, 6-5 Myntique Air, 8-1 Delatron, 33-1 others

4.50 BECKSIDE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025

7.50 SOUTH DOWNS HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1m 4f

— 7 doctored — BETTING: B-1 Riving Dough, T-2 Mr Browning, 9-2 Caston Venture, 5-3 Pace, B-1 Zinzeri, B-1 Websel, 10-1 Devocid

8.20 TELSCOMBE HANDICAP (CLASS SET

153,300 added 3YO 1m 2f | 15mm | 1

-8 declared 6ETTING: 5-2 Almays Grace, 11-4 Pizzicato, 3-1 Solite Factors, 7-2 Conniche Quest, 12-1 Rise to Shine, 20-1 Ages

d 3YO 1m 4

101 101 91 91 81 81 91 101 121 101 101 91

331 331 401 331

331 331 401 331 331 331 481 331

il servant would have heen

nal annual statement. "It was a shambles on the edge of bank- deal of hope pinned to Peter

Well, up to a point. Yesterday's accounts do show a record profit, before the Tote's contrihution to racing, of £12.8m, a stark Softly-spoken, thoughtful, rise of 21 per cent on the pre- a man who chooses his words vious year. The problem, though, is that it is 21 per cent of what is, given the Tote's monopoly on a form of betting which guarantees they cannot lose, not very much. The return to racing last year was £8.7m, another record, but many be-

Hyperion's TV tips SANDOWN
2.65; KHAWAFI, who impresse

when making all to win a 1m 2f Goodwood maiden by four lengths from Song Of Freedom, can follow up. Rokeby Bowl may

2.35: HELICON, 5 creditable

three-quarters of a length second to Cap Julica in a Im 21 Newbury

stakes race, should go well. Lor Of Men is the obvious danger.

3.10: GOLD SPATS, disappointing last time, is fairly treated on his best form. Hornbeam is the

3.45 TUDOR ISLAND, half a length second to Siege Perflous here on his reappearance, will be

pose most problems.

As a result, there is a great

ruptcy. Last year we made Jones as he prepares to take record profits."

Jones as he prepares to take over at Rote House on 1 August, over at Tote House on 1 August, and in terms of personality at least, the contrast with his predecessor could hardly be more with care, his natural style seems to be to manage through consultation rather than dictat. and thus much more in keep-

ing with the current mood.

Still, the honeymoon will not last long. Jones will need to deliver, not least on the Lottery- to the Wyattosaurus.

ing board. "The ideal time to start it would be in 1998," Jones said, "but it depends oo how quickly we can develop the idea and software." Whether the working concept is the fourrace Fourtimer which Lord Wyatt revealed to the apparent surprise of his managers earlier this year remains to be seen.

Jones may have had little chance to air his views yesterday, but it was still possible to sense that the lote, which perhaps represents racing's best hope for a secure financial future, is shoul to enter a important new phase of development. Wave goodbyc

Raider lost in France

Romanow, ridden by John Reid, finished third, a short-head and a length behind André Fabre's Kirkwall and Rajpoute, in the £33,670 Group Two Prix Eugene Adam over 10 furlongs at Saint-

Cloud yesterday.

Feter Chapple-Hyam's Derby third raced in fourth, close behind Kirkwall, the 13-10 favourite, while Rajpoute set a strong pace. Romanov was about a length behind Kirkwall coming into the straight hut, hard though he tried, he could never close the gap. Kirkwall got up on the line. He was ridden by Olivier Peslier.

A Ladhrokes punter in 2 August. Bolton is keeping faith with the

Aidan O'Brien-trained twoyear-old King Of Kings, who was beaten at the Curragh oo Sunday. Ladbrokes yesterday laid the customer a bet of

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Hornbeam NB: Midyan Blue (Sandown 3.40)

£75,000-£500 (£500 at 150-1) on King Of Kings to win the 2,000 Guineas and Derby in 1998.

Bishops Court will miss the Stewards Cup at Goodwood on

Results, page 23

YARMOUTH	10 030-56 60 FOR SREEK (25) Dr J Scarge 3 6 0
HYPERION	25-1 fin For Green, 33-1 Badger Bay
1.50 Ajeebah 2.25 Royal Rights 2.55 Prima Verde	3.30 EAST COAST MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D)

3.30 Blueygreen 4.00 Meshhed 4.30 Tumblewood Ridge 5.00 Urgent Swift	E4,900 arided 3YO 7f
GOING: Good. STALLS: Straight course – stands side; round course – inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.	2 55 NEEDS (170) I Frantises 9 0 Neets 2 3 2-0255 SELECT CHOICE (7) A Javes 9 0 S Devene 3 4 0 SEVEREY (7) W Hagges 9 0 Ne 14 Mills 6 5 ARCC COLORA 2049 M Stoke 6 9 N. H. Dorloy 6
Left-hand course, level and fabr. Comme is N of Lown on Al 40. Yarmouth station Lts. ADMIS- SUON: Cain 5.12 (OAPs 5.11); Tattersalls 5.8.70 (OAPs 5.7.50); Fam- ity and course employers \$4.50 (DAPs 5.8.50). CAR PARE: 5.1.	S CO-22 BLUEVERBERN (Rink) (Rink) P Chappie-Hyorn 8 9

SHOPE (ABINAL CONTROL & L. CO.)
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Zeresaki (4.30).
WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN BATH Greenstruction (1.50) won at Ary on Monraky, Tunchicweed Hidge (4.30) won at Newmarketon Thursday.
LONG-DISTANCE EDINESS: Elseygroon (1.30) has been sere 203 miles by P Chapple-Hyan (ron Hasson, Wilshirtz. - 8 Inclared -BETTMG: 8-4 Kirfuf, 5-2 Biorygroup, 8-2 Arco Coloxa, 8-1 Select Choice 10-1 Reeds, N Febra, 12-1 Sewertly, 18-1 Unforgatable Charm 4.00 TUNSTALL STAKES (CLASS C) £73,251 added 3YO fillies 7f

4	.30	FILBY BRIDGE RATED HANDICAP (CLASS B) £11,650 added 7f
2	802201	
2		DOUBLE SPLEIDOUR DES CO P Feigne 7 8 6 G Had 6
8		SPIOCK VALUE (LIR) 4 Strain 3 9 4
4	000650	HELLO MESTER (20) [POWE 9 8 2
5	-00253	YORKE GEORGE (US) (SE) L Current 3 9 0 K Danley 9
9	715052	PERSON (18) R Armstrong 48 13R HELS
9	120-80	PLEADONS (12) H Cardy 48 13 C Parter 1
8	53-620	ALAMEN (USA) (28) (7) W Hoges 48 12 5 Denime 28
9		SKY DOME (28) (D) M Torrelors 4 8 12
10		ZARGEISNE (82) (D) C Britain 3 8 3

SELTERA: 7-2 Yearthingened Ricigo, Yorkin George, 4-1 Shock Value, 6-1 5.00 REPPS HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1m 3f 101yds

- 9 declared -HETTING: 3-1 Landing Moto, 4-1 Urgant Switt, 5-1 Wast A Pure, 6-1 Pro-nder Generation, Sarbaron, 7-1 Sociatio, 10-1 Sarbarg, Prospector's Cove,

| October | Octo

DONCASTER HYPERION

6.30 Alconleigh 7.00 Cross The Border 7.30 Kass Alhervi 8.00 intikhab 8.30 One Singer 9.00 Kristal

1.50 UPTON SELLING STAKES (CLASS 6)

2.25 FEF ACLE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D)

-8 designal -BETTHER 11-10 Royal Rights, 4-1 Headhanter, 5-1 Saturite, 6-1 Fritter, 10-1 Princess Offrie, 12-1 Stree Of Destiny, 16-1 Desgino, 20-1 Justicities

2.55 HORSEY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £4,900 added filles & mares 1m

£3,000 added 1m 2f

SETTING: 7-4 Scdo Pop. 3-1 Shoebell Miss. 4-1 Shoebell Miss. 4-1 Shoebell Miss. 4-1 Shoebell Miss. 5-1 Northern Touch, 10-1 Shoebell Miss.

GOING: Good (watering).
STALLS: Straight course – stands add; round course – badde except. Int round – coursede.
DRAW ADVANTAGE: None. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

III. Left-band, pear-shaped course with 1 mile straight.

III. Course is E of town off the ARRS (A.18 Jess 3 & 4). Bus link from Peacesster Central station. ADMINSTON: Club £14; Grandstand 5R: Pomily Enclosure \$1 (under-16s free all enclosures). CAR PARE: Free.

VISORED FIRST TIME: Minago Park (7,00).

WINDERS IN LAST SEVEN DATE: Eristal Breeze (8,00) won at Folkstone on Weinneder.

n Folkestone on Wednesday. LONG-DISTANCE EUROPEES: Grucom's Seridon (8.00) & Inter-Lable (9.00) have been sent 221 miles by J Dunlop From Arvadei,

6.30 GRESLEY STAKES (CLASS C) SICY 231141 PRINCE FOLD (50) W 6 M Turner 9 7 _____ D Michellin (7) 2
312 ALDMALERH (27) (b) (89) M Johnston 9 1 _____ D Westerlin (7) 2
6512 PREMIUM PURSUIT (25) (CD) R Fairly 8 13 ____ A Cultures 2
4 MACE SACK_HISO) W O'COMME 6 8 _____ Resear O'Gomes 4
123 ANNEL HILL (42) T 0 Berton 8 6 _____ L Garrock 6 - 5 decised - 5 de

7.00 APPRENTICE SERIES HANDICAP SERVE

SETTING: 2-1 Cross The Bardw. 6-1 Special, T-1 John O'Dreson, 8-1 Chemicact, Needs Park, 10-1 Antaric Storm, 13-1 The West, Treatment, 8-1 Lad. Relativity of 1-1 Featherstone Land, 16-1 Southern Dominion, 20-1 Hunting Gold

_		
_		
G	730	ES,000 added 1m (Round)
Ľ	20	£5,000 added 1m (Round)
Π		CAN CAN LADY (LOS (D) (SIF) M JUTTERS 3 9 12, J Women 9
5	-00710	
Ĭ	3-6730	LDOK YHO'S CALLING 1291 8 Molitarion 4 9 6 X Dierior 4
	-40040	SUALTACH (4) (C) R Holicarboot 495 Dettori 2
,	005154	NR TERGH (12) (D) Mrs. J Ramsden 5 9 3 Fortune T
•	142480	
7	51	LIQUID GOLD (23) (0) W O'Sourien 3 9 2 Bream O'Sourien 5
3	00-022	VENE VIDE VICE CLA DA DEP NEHERS 492_5 Drouns 11.
	443102	
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SETTINGE 11-2 Kass Africa, 6-1 Vers Von Vici, 7-1 Li Felgh, 8-1 Smaltack, 9-1 Cas Cast Lady, 10-1 others 8.00 HALFAX STAKES (CLASS C) SKY 27,400 BURGH LTM (Strongth)

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5-2106 PERITHER HOUSE (SE) (CD) W Nike 3 9 2 J Weener 5
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BETTHOR: 5-2 Musico, 13-4 Intidado, 4-1 Decent Horizon, 9-2 N Hod, T-1
Peartree House, 8-1 Groots's Gordon 8.30 ERF VYNER NOVICE STAKES (CLASS D) £4,550 added 270 5f

9.00 ARKSEY TROPHY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,400 edded filles & mares 1m 4f | 124,400 BOOKS TRIBES & TRIBES | 10400 ENGTH (29) (F) | 1 L Eye 4 10 0 | 10032 DEDANGO (46) E Akan 495 | 10830. INSEAL RESEZE (7) (9) W Mar 5 9 3 (504 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 10

12 14PO3- LEEAL ARTIST (47) 7 10 5....

SANDOWN

2.35 Helicon 3.10 Gold Spats HYPERION

3.10 Gold Spats

4.40 Faith Alone

GOING: Good to Farm 1Good to ploces on straight course, watering!

STALLS: Straight course - stands side; rest - invide.

DEAW ADVANTAGE: High for 3: tow for 7 to 1m.

Eligia-hand course. Separate selff 3i track.

Course is on ASO7, Am 5 of Kingston. Eaber station (service from London, Water-loo) adjuins course. ADMISSION: Unb 5.15, Junior Club (17 - 21yrs) \$13; Grandstand \$10; Fark 5.4. CAR PAREE, 22 in members (Blore Lanc), remainder free.

LEADING TRAINCESS WITH EUNINESS: R Hammon. 37 winness from 37 remover gover a success ratio of 12.5% and a loss to a \$11 level stake of \$47.41; J B M Goaden - 22 winners, 107 runners, 30.6%, +\$30.81; M R Stonte - 23 winners, 134 runners, 16.5%, \$50.78;

13. Dealog - 20 winners, 108 humans, 16.5%, \$12.0%.

LEADING JOCKETS: Far Eddery - 56 wins, 255 rides, 21.6%, \$14.47; L Dettorf - 44 winners, 214 rides, 20.7%, +\$38.7; T Quinn - 27 winners, 201 rides, 13.4%, \$48.91; M Roberts - 36 winners, 174 rides, 14.9%, \$25.78.

Winners, 214 rides, 20.7%. +\$3.81; T Quinn - 27 winners, 201 rides, 13.4%, \$48.91; M Roberts - 36 winners, 174 rides, 14.9%, \$25.78.

WINGERS IN LAST SEPEN DATS; None.

LONG DESTANCE RUNNIESS: Pry To The Staru (3.10) has been sent 249 wiles by M Johnston from Middlehem, North Yorkshire.

2.05 SINO GROUP DRAGON TROPHY LIMITED STAKES C4

1 0250 RIGHASS C) £10,000 added 1 m 3f 91,yds £6,710 C4

1 0250 RIGHA RELU (28) (and Roung Partneship) (by Kellenay 4 9 5 Pat Endory 3 88

2 3300 RIGHA RELU (28) (and Roung Partneship) (by Kellenay 4 9 5 T Detroi 1 35

3 1460.3 SEART PLAY (1851) (28) (85 George Rend Lord Hardrigstor 4 9 5 T Detroi 1 35

5 1 RECHARCOLOUR (287) (Lord Mersacok) M Seater 3 8 5 P D'Thombes (5) 5 85

5 1 TECHARCOLOUR (287) (Lord Mersacok) M Seater 3 8 5 Reld 2 78

ENTINE: 9-4 Rokely Book 11-4 Yechalcolour, 100-30 Pozza Figlio, 7-2 Krameti, 8-1 Smart Play 1999: En Luna 4 9 4 A Mediane 4-6 for (4) Good dayn 115 Fen

FORM GUIDE

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ROKEEY BOWL should have won more often than he has, but he does need fairly precase noting as he showed at York two summers ago when he swooped past his sot male,
over now burlongs out, but then had little more to give when challenged by Mezaen. Interespingly, his previous run that year had been in Goodwood's Tote Gold Traptry when a
neck second to Plaudslu, who was tecehing a pound. He has run creditably several times
since and Frankino Details have him well, although John Reid was the man on top when
Rokety Sout ten such to Zeralasia in the Old Newton Cup lest time. The ground is spoton and this must be regarded as a sound chance for lian Bailing's the-year-old Sament
Play, Technicolour is best weithed affer his soft-ground win line is by Rambow Questu
in a Chepstow melden last October, as is Khawwall's tour-length Goodwood madden win
last more than a shade flattering because the opposition lockeys gave him for space.
Still, ne so in he upgrade and should be effective over the longer trip. Smart Play, a hidbrother to New Century, has been highly tried since his Thirsk maden win 14 months ago
and not too much should be read into his comeback defeat at Selsbury where he may
there dished the testing ground. He has joined Lord Humingion from Julie Cect. Porza
Figlio it one to keep on the right side of and the trip should suit mit well. His must him to be in good order.

2.35 HSBC TROPHY STAKES (CLASS C) £10,000 added C4

3.40 Tudor Island (nb)

4.40 Faith Alone

4.10 Commander Charlie

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Fignile Deton, he covered seven furions with Decorated Hero. When this classy horse won a Doncaster conditions event (2m) 17 days ago, he was running for the first time in 20 months effer fracturing a pelvis and, though he did not impress to the paddock, he saveled well in the race and best Kale Sunnes and Arrick Jeeb by four lengths and the same despite tending to flesh he and, the won the final time of his four juvernile stants, nutrinshing in a Group One success in the Prix De La Salamendre at Longbramp. There antiminating in a Group One success in the Prix De La Salamendre at Longchamp. There are bound to be a few misgings over him still but the extra two furiongs should bring about improvement. Helicop will be better for his reappearance effort when second to Cap Julicia over 10 furiongs at Newbury and it is worth bearing in mind, despite his subsequent training troubles, that he won the good Newmarket maiden (1m) in September 1995, what featured houses of the calibre of Shearnit and Committal, Helicon was then trained by Henry Cecit, who is represented by Ismaros, the writer of a 10-furiong Windsor maiden on the eve of Royal Ascot. It was an existing performance, too, because he produced a rare turn of tool; to beat the Stotic, Gosden and Loder representatives. Perhaps he will need a bit more expenience, but terretoe promises to be well above average. Second to him at Windoor was Sillenes Reigns, who wen on to take a 10-furiong Periasca maden. He may not have beaten much but it was straightforward and he ments this chance in better grade.

		n. marine Branch	
3	.10	HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB TROPHY HANDICAP C4 (CLASS B) £90,000 added 1m £51,650 AMERIK ALEES (LT) (O) (RT) (A MISCO) & Harbury 5 9 10	•
	43503	AMERICAN AND ED (17) DOS (ED) IA MARZO S HARBORY 5 9 10	ı
,	10.500	ALMUSHTARAK (18) (D) (H A MACHIO) K Mehd 499	t
ī	62206	LONGLY LEADER (28) (Salem Suitable R Harmon 4 9 5	ř
i	0-1530	BOUD WOMEN'S ICANO 1289 IOS (Maksourn Al Makdourn) E Duniop 3 9 3 M Roberts 1 1	K
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	10-210		ſ
r	45-13	HOMESAM CAN ALC Panel J Juniors 3 8 11R Cochrace 12 1	K
•	00-310	BOLD SPATS RISA) (289 604 Chapetry Park Stud) M Stoute 4 8 11 Reld 8 1	ľ
•	21-241	HARRY WOLTON (37) (D) (Did Road Securios Pic) H Cecl 38 13	t
0	1-8401	CLAN BER (11) (CD) langes Dunger Pic H Cecl 5 8 12 (4ed	ı
1	/3D-01		Ľ
12	500050		ı
13	28-544		
M	561000		ı
15	122-24	DANCESS THARE (26) (2) (the Queent Battley 4 8 6	Ľ
16	1-3400	SAIFAN (28) (D) (No.), Proof O Morts 885	Ľ
١7	(531/31	COSMIC PRINCE (40) (Cosmic Greyhound Partnership) M Jants 3 8 58 Dalfrield 18 1	I
B	3-031	HIGHT WING (25) (D) (The Bad Carlogard W Hart 3 8 4	L

HETTING: 11-2 Red Robbs, 7-1 Denoing Ranges, 9-1 Copasic Prince, 9-1 Hawkeley HE, 3D-1 Fly To the Stars, Gold Spate, Right Wing, 12-1 Harry Wollto, Hombeam, 14-1 Clea Bea, 16-1 Bold Words, Langely Leader, 20-1 Alexandricas, Assault Ajech, 33-2 others 1996: Street Denoig 4-8 7 W Words 1D-1 Of Artestrong Grann (5) 20 tan

RED ROBBO has gone up a very far-locking 5th for his Royal Hunt Cup victory. This race is a contrasting test in as much as he has a bend to negotiate, but too much should not be read into his first-time-out flop on the round course (201) at York in May because he reportedly lost a since that day. Red Robbo sal has the scope to anyone. This is his isvoluted attend and the Min 19 feet as a leave to the state of the Min 19 feet as the scope to anyone. This is his isvoluted attend and the Min 19 feet as a leave to be read into his first-time-but flop on the round course (200) at the kind possess he recognized lost a since that day. Red Robbo soft has the scope to improve. This is his knowed ground and his No 1.8 draw is a bonus. Fourth in the Hunt Cup was Denicing Image, a solid héradicapper with Frankle Detan't is help and sure to go weet. Lowely Leader, fifth at Royal Root, put in a bold attempt from the 30 and was bearen little more than two lengths. He had Gold Sparks a short-head benind when second to Autumn Cover in Kempon's Aubilee Hundicap in early May and that was another good effort under 10st. Gold Spatis is 9% ware in with Lonely Leader on that was another good effort under 10st. Gold Spatis is 9% ware in with Lonely Leader on that spring form. Another Hunt Cup concessor, was Bodd Wards, who was one of the leading fancies but trailed in 25th. No has had a month to frasher up and looked a classy sort when beating Hundsome Rudgs at Ropon first me up. Perhaps the Feaden Stalkes lifth to Folme) eight days later came too soon, but Bold Words can win one of these big hendicaps and the one big worry is his No 2 draw. Fly To The Stars, wirner of the Britannia Stalkes at Royal Ascot, is rated better than handicap class by Mark Johnston and though the is no ordinary handsop, the booking of Pat Eddey is a pointer. Geologe Unified comes in for the ride on Cossiste Prince, who won well over the Epsom seven last month but is, according to his trainer, a nervious type. The finishing his could be too much for this the-numer. Kamili Mohdi rections Alisaustriansk to have a great chance, but a saver could be Hurry Webion, perhaps the pich of the Henry Cool pair and given a steady build-up to the risce. He can well here first time up in April when dividing Romanov and Konn and is more the finished another now, hong come good at Nothingham last time.

BI	Nothinghe	m last time. Selection: RED ROBBO
[3.40	SING TAO TROPHY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 C4 added 1m 6f Penalty Value £7,100
1	31/	BRASEY (LIER) (D) (Mrs.) Ryun) R Mechanic 7 10 0
2	003-47	SE Brita's (22) (G G Gravson) J Mine 5 9 10 R Phonon (5) 5 83
3	001140	MAZUREN (11) (Nammer Pic) M Pipe 497
ā	13,103	BOWCLETE COLERT (13) (A O Spence) R Abehuss 5 9 7 D Domby (7) 9 83
5	3790.2	TUDOR ISLAND (32) (CD) (D Self) C Britain 8 9 5
Ă	3,2132	PORCY ISLE (25) (Sheikin Wohammed) M Strute 3 9 1 I Reld 4 87
ř	030300	SECONDAL BLUE (29) (CD) (Kent) H Palmert J Eustana 7 8 11
ė	0.3015	SHEERING DAVICER (29) (The Latermane Pentnership) S Dow 5 8 10 J F Styen 1 82
ğ	0243	GEORGIA VENTURE (22) Dr Ronk S 8 Chaol S Hoods 3 8 2

ECTIVE: T-2 Tudor Intend. 9-2 Percy Intend, 5-1 Elimeny, 6-1 Bowelfile Court, T-1 Georgia Ven-bers, Massawk, 8-1 Shining Descer, 10 -1Mildyon Bloe, Shortly 1988: No corresponding case

Seorgia Venture is interesting off her current mark, but seems happed in the soft and BIMSEY is a far from fortom hope, despite carrying 10st on his first Flat start for 636 days. He was pulled up at Auteuil 16 days ago, but won the Martell Autree Huntle in April. he was puned up at numeral to days ago, to work her waven where the fact of this last against ing Malee A Stand and Large Action, and he should have the pace for this last against of exposed handicappers, even on the heely ground. Bowcilifie Coort, who perhaps of his larest run after spreading a plate in the Chester Cup, helps give Rag Alechustin ge hand. Tudor Island should be in his element and is a frash horso, his only other this season being over the course and distance last month when second to Siege as Steedby has not won since 1995 when with lan Balding, but is shaping well as Season the course of the course and distance and the second to Siege as Steedby has not won since 1995 when with lan Balding. But is shaping well as Season the course of t

4.10 TIN TIN DAILY NEWS TROPHY MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 270 7f £3,648

SAEEDAH, a sister to Bulade and a half-sater to several other winners, including Zimzstein, should give a good account on her debut. Outsourcing, who ran into Crapee Mental up at Hamston before a Newmarket fourth to Hams, must be rectioned with along with Counsembler Debute, second to Connects as Goodwood and sure to appreciate the extra furiong. Rader ran on strongly when fifth to The Glow-Worm in the Riss Maiden [76] at Newmerket and is a sure future writter.

Selection: SAEEDAH

— 11 declared —

— 11 declared —

SETTENC: 7-2 Class Calest, 4-1 Willow Dale, 5-1 Faith Alone, 8-1 Miscellen Lad, White Emir, 9-1 Hote Relayers, 10-1 Healf Tone, 12-1 Lard High Admirel, 14-1 Master Of Passion, Taolete, 16-1 Dande

Piyer 1999: Mage: Mail 3 9 8 Martin Dayer (5) 14-1 U Eustacei diown (10) 12 ran

LUCK MORE IN 9 8 March Dever (5) 14-1 (I) Eustace drawn (10) 12 mm FORM CRIDE

FORM CRIDE

WILLOW DALE is being leaft busy but it is impossible to fault her and this stiff five will sure. She kept on well when that to Plater of Amour over the Epsom are lest time and had run home five lengths clear of 13 mets over the Whyter at previously when Patith Alone, sustequent coay within of 3 str-furions handlesp in softish ground at Yammouth, was 3 one-posed fifth. Clear Called holds White Emili on recent course form behind My Best Villenthins and is threatening to win soon, while filledless Lad did not get the best of runs to Lungheid handlesp won by Bowden Rose and about. Whaten Lad has plenty of pace and his probable blung for this stiff five makes him a look a solid sech-way carefulcing.

Selection: WILLOW DALE

7.20 WHITE HAWK SELLING STAKES SKY (CLASS G) £2,875 added 1m

here 3 1 24. Thin calls 37. 49. Louise 7 30 CAR PARK: Fire BLINERED FIRST TREE: User of Bray (6.10), Ap-pearance Money (7.10), Salls Legend (8.10), Websi pourance Money (7.10), Salls Legend (8.10), Websi

pearance Money 1 | 10 | LAST SEVEN DAYS: Sailin Mineteel W1505785 IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Sailin Mineteel W1505785 IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Sailin Mineteel in Constitute the Latest price for income continuous summaries 21 1211 from al 64 on water of Weshwoodsy. LANGE-DESTANCE REPORTERS: Banany Harce (6 101.6 Bitastrack 18, 201 have been sent C11 nobes by J Bar-deri from 10th Seaton, Cambria.

6.40 NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,925 added 2m

7.10 HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) 2.7.42.5 300060 271 47

7.4-11 SEMECHARIT (29) (20) 21.0 ... W Navido
2. 2004 SEERT (20) (20) 6.12 0 ... C Usualiya
3. 31111- PETSAN ELITE (35) (3) 9.19 - R Dumodol
4. 627-51 APACE PARK (25A) (21) (3) 4.104 ... T Bey
5. 43445. CLESTRINE, NEWS (207) 7.100 ... Bay Lyona
9. 069-05 (8800237) GEORGE (7) 6.100 R Septia
4. Minimum meight (10s. True handlesp weight hynocart George
00s 100s 9st 100. BETTEMS: 13-8 Paralto Ellin, 5-4 Searchillett, 6-1 Apachie Park, 13-2 Shorti, 10-1 (Ellinson) Nova, 14-1 Innocent George

7.40 NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,075 added 2m

8.40 HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,475 added 2m 7f 110yds

RETTING: 3-1 No Light, 5-1 Appearance Money, 6-1 Versie Luca, 13-2 Kantari Mag, 10-1 Alpine Miss, 12-1 others

8.10 NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,925 added 2m 4f 9.10 STANDARD OPEN MI FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m 1 SALFH MONSHEL (7) (ED) 6 11 11 — A Frank F71-22 SALFH (7) (EF) 8 11 6 — R Johnson P7- HESH NYAME (110) 5 11 4 — A Bonston SOON COME (120) 5 11 4 — A Debbin CON BEACON LIME (7) 4 11 1 — A Debbin CON BEACON LIME (7) 4 11 1 — A 11 17 I Monthly

WORCESTER

6.10 Couchant 6.40 Totally Yours 7.10 Searchight 7.40 Verde Luna 8.10 Sells Legend 8.40 Hurricane Blake 9.10 Regal Absence

6.10 SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,375 added 2m 4f

Foster finds new formula in race for Seville conquest



fter 12 years of interna-tional swimming, Mark Foster has been allered out how to swim one length from crawl. It is a frustrating paradox of sprinting that the harder you

try, the slower you swim.
At an international meet in the south of France last month, Foster was amazed to discover he could swim the 50 metres half a second faster simply by relaxing, rather than thrashing it from the start. He will get his final chance to experiment at the National Championships this week at Crystal Palace and finding that extra half a second will be vital if Foster is to win the European Championships in Seville in August.

The five-times world record holder in a short course (25-metre) pool is expecting to add the ropean to his Commonwealth title over the long course 50metre pool. "If the same tactics work this week, I know I can win gold in Seville," Foster said.

James Parrack meets British swimming's bad boy turned golden boy preparing for this week's National Championships

If his swimming has now become a race of two halves, theo so, too, has his life. Having successfully separated himself from the image of the bad boy of British swimming, the 27year-old looks back on his troubled tecoage years with ambivalence. A sprinting phe-oomeoon since his early teens, the world's fastest junior was hreaking the rules and records with alarming regularity. He was in trouble with everyone and everything until taking a time-out in 1991, returning to compete in the Olympic final in Barcelona the next year.

"It was a long time ago Foster says. "It was all just part of growing up and showed I had a hit of character. But then I swam in the final of the Olympics after practically no training." That is the talent of the man.

With the growing-up process finishing at a colossal 6ft 7in, the revised character is the model professional, who oow chooses to live life in the fast lanes of international swimming. The bad boy has become the glamour boy of British swimming.

Like Foster, the sport has changed dramatically over the last 10 years and 27 is no longer considered old for a swimmer. The changes are wholly because of money. "In swimming now, you can definitely make a good living," he says, and he intends to carry on doing so beyond the year 2000. "Prize-mooey is increasing all the time, hut you have to win titles as well to at-

tract sponsors."
With two major sponsors, Adidas and Celinet, providing a basic income, the rest is made from appearance and prize-

money. Always seeking to maximise the quality of life, his successes have enabled him to enjoy fast cars and expensive clothes, an image envied by most other swimmers. Foster enjoys the benefits of professionalism and sees himself lead-

ing the way for others to follow. With Lottery money now, the élite swimmer can make £20,000, which can double or triple with prize-money and sponsorship, Foster said. "I used to get a kick from seeing Adrian Moorhouse driving around in a Porsche. If he had won the Olympics and was driving a Fiesta, no one would bother. When the sport is attractive and exciting, kids will work harder to get to the top."

In his own search to be-come the hest sprinter in the world. Foster joiced Linford

before the Atlanta Olympics last year. "They would warm up and do one 200 metres flat ool. every half an hour. It is 20 seconds of intense work, with a very long rest. The 200 metres on the track is the equivalent of the 50 metres in the pool, and now I train the same way.

"Eveo if I only swim 30 kilometres a week [most international swimmers will swim twice this distance], it's going to be high quality, mentally and physically. and so I need to have proper rest to be able to keep doing it well. I believe you have got to train at the pace you are going to race at, or else you are just teaching your body to swim slow."

It is a surprise to find Foster training seven days a week at the élite training village at Bath University – the first project to be completed with Lottery money. Swimming is one of its pri-ority sports and the programme

there is shaping the future of the sport in this country. Surroundletes are at the centre of a comprehensive, scientific support programme, which is why Foster is there: "I like to be around positive, motivated people all the time, and here I am training with some of the best in the world."

With team-mates like Olympic silver medallist Paul Palmer, it is easy for Foster to remain focused. But despite his confident demeanour, Foster cannot do it on his own and needs the support of a commit-ted coach. Ian Turner is the head coach at Bath and chief coach to the British team, and has the rare ability to keep Foster in line. Lan keeps me very motivated and will give me his attention all

the time. If a coach is not going to bother, then why should !?"

It will be a confident Foster who, if he stays relaxed this week, will race to become European champioo in Scrille.

Mark Foster is aiming to win the European 50 metres freestyle title next month in Seville Photograph: Allsport THE 126TH OPEN: Ayrshire suits Montgomerie's game but provides a host of painful memories for a former champion

Monty's motto is home rule

A strange thing hap-peos wheo Colin Mootgomerie packs his bags and heads for the Open Championship. No one has proved that ao alien

spaceship abducts and replaces him with a clooe every July hut they might as well do for all the use he is. Four missed cuts in five years would not be something to boast about by any professional golfer hut wheo you are regarded,

quite rightly, as one of the best players in the world, that record is little short of a gross embarrassment. To describe Monty's record as mediocre would be to run the risk of being charged with gross sycophancy.

Which is extraordinary considering what he does across the Atlantic. Put "US" in front of Open and the Scot is in contention (two seconds and a

So you could say Monty, 34. is under the weight of failed promise this week. Years of being built up as Scotland's hrave only to fall on his own claymore are reason enough for a decent show at Royal Troon this week but he is, to risk an outhreak of singing, coming home. If he cannot perform well here then he might feel inclined to give up the Open as a lost cause.

Muotgomerie, whose father James is secretary at Royal Troon, grew up alongside the course and his house was about

The Scot is confident he can bury the hoodoo that has dogged his efforts to win the Open, Guy Hodgson reports "Immediately after Con-

well done"."

150 yards from the 18th greeo, so if local knowledge has any gressiooal I was disappointed, yes," he said, "hut looking at it bearing this week then he will be afterwards I took a very positive at a significant advantage. Furview of the tournameot. That's thermore he is playing at what why I've played well since, I didn't lose; Ernie Els won and he describes as an unprecedeotedly high level. Britain, Scotland and Troon expect and, all credit to him for that. That was as good as I can play and frankly, they have every right to.

"I would be under more pressure if I wasn't playing well." Montgomerie, whose sole light in a murky Open past is an eighth place at nearby Tumberry three years ago, said. "I feel I'm capable of doing very well here and I've looked forward to it since it was announced the Open was coming here seven

"I don't feel under any pressure in any shape or form. The third); leave the word on its own and the only thing he is in is a word 'pressure' is mentioned mostly by the likes of the mefast car heading away from the dia and the more people mencourse on Friday night. Hot tion it, the worse it gets. So we it could be two golfers just avoid the word from now

Almost hy hahit, Mootgomerie is at the Open Championship fresh from a good performance in America. He finished second to Ernie Els io the US Open at the Congressional last month but rather than brood over another oear miss his form since has been better than satisfactory. A closing-round 62 won him the Irish Open 10 days ago while his 10th place at Loch Lomond on Saturday did oot drain him as much as full-blooded coo-

about performing better than I've done in the past at this tournameot. I know what I'm doing round this golf course. It's just tention would have dooe. a matter of trying to go out there and prove it. If he does he will fulfil an ambition that has stirred within him since he walked past Royal Troon - which would not let him oo the course until he was 16 to play at the the neighbouring course of Portland. "It would be the ultimate sporting thrill," he

said. "It's something any child growing up in Ayrshire would look forward to. "I try not to think what it would be like coming up the 18th with a clear lead oo Sunday but it would be the best feeling I could ever think about. This, to me, is home. It is where my family are, where my wife is from. This is it as far as major championships are concerned and it will be until it probably comes hack here io seveo years

and ohviously I'm hopeful



Tm playing possible the best golf of my 10-year pro career and obscores. For heading for Prestwick files over Tiger Woods (bottom left) at Royal Troon yesterday

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Price's poignant past

If anyone ought to get the heebie-jechies eotering Royal Trooo it is Nick Price. Missing the cut eight years ago hardly eodeared himself to the place, but a grislier reminder lurks in

his mind, writes Guy Hodgson. In 1982 the Opeo was for his takiog. Driving up Trooo's 13th, the par-four Burmah, the field was in his wake and the claret jug was heading for his lips. Four dropped shots later and Tom Watson had takeo the fourth of five titles. "I didn't win this Championship, the American said, "I had it

given to me." Price, 40, recalled that fall from grace yesterday, safe in the knowledge that the damage done that Sunday was repaired by ao Open win at Turnberry three years ago. I remember the hack nine on the last day

was hard to stomach for a little said, "there were a handful of hit after that

Needless to say I learnt from that experience. I don't believe I would be the player or person I am oow if I'd won so maybe it was a hlessing. I think if I'd never won the Open I'd have kicked myself for the rest of my life hot seeing as I did it in '94 it puts the second place in a higher position."
The Zimbabwean has woo

three majors since, including a finish of eagle, hirdie, par to overhaul Jesper Parnevik at Turnberry and erase once and for all the image of a choker. He is among the favourites this week, although as most of the leading contenders have arrived in Ayr with good golf drip-ping out of them that is oot necessarily a clue to the destination of the title.

people who really had an opportunity to win. Now there are 15 people who have a realistic chance of winning if they play their good, solid game plus another 40 guys who come into the

Guys do not lose tournaments as much as win them. You shoot one or two under oo the back nine and they come flooding past you. You've got to shoot three or four under." As for his own chances, he

describes them as pretty good now that cortisone injections have helped repair an injured shoulder. "The only thing I would like to have done in the last four or five weeks is to have won a tournament. I've come close but I just haven't had the final punch in my game."

If he finds it, Troon's defences will he open. After all, it owes

Tee-of	ff times a	Troon
	0955 and 1415 I Van (Velde (Fr), L Roberts (US).	P (US), B Langer
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(Pt). V Philips, O Topping
1115 and 1535 R Knatsson
(See), T Gogde (Gen), C Perry (US)
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0845 and 1395 R Russell, F
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6906 and 12825 I Woosnem,
FRancy (Aug), P Seven (US) 1205 and 0745 C Strange -(US); J Lomes, E Es (SA) 1225 and 0605 D Circle, S Jones (US), F Hobio (NZ) 1225 and 0615 M James, M Washe (US), C Pavin (US)

1246 and 0825 C Rocca (b). 1. Janeso (US), M Long (NZ). 1255 and 0835 2 Paon (US), J Pampelk (See), R Green (Aus).

very well, but that's about it," he said. "The fact I didn't win "If you look back at my first British Opeo in 1975," Price Now, if the real Monty can Langer praying for a tempest to help steady his hand Montgomerie: 'I'm playing the best golf of my career' ing, the Lord Jesus, and we killed grips, techniques and putters. Right now I just play hole by hole and day

ernhard Langer does not mind what the weather is like at Royal Troon this week. just as lung as it suggests that Armageddon is un the way. He will settle for either screaming winds or thunder-crackling skies.

For when it comes to predictions in extreme weather, even Michael Fish could forecast that Langer would take a hand in a golf tournament. Earlier this season it was the German who captured the Benson and Hedges International when a near turnado aitempted to take the St Mellion clubhouse on the same path as Dorothy's house to Munchkinland.

Troon may seem benign during its light zephyr days, but this is a trout tickler of a course where timesse and course management are paramount. "Someone said that no one murders Troon," Lee Trevino once said. The way I played the Open there they couldn't even arrest me for second degree manslaughter. diately, but somebody who keeps
The vagaries of the Ayrshire gales something inside. It's good that way

tions," Laoger said. "I don't blame the circumstances for not playing well and I don't talk myself into being miserable. I just accept what I find out there and try to make the best out of it. Sometimes the best is a 63 and sometimes it's an 83. Some of that is natural to me and some of it I have to work on."

The ready image of Langer is the Bavarian automaton, a man who would not react if his puppy disappeared under a lorry wheel. If you ask him why he is so uodemonstrative, a crevice smile upens up on his face which renders the question rather absurd. "I have luts of emotions and if you ask my caddie I'm sure he will coofirm that," he answered. "Maybe I have a different way of showing it because I'm not an explosive person who reacts imme-

Richard Edmondson meets a popular German hoping to add an Open title to the two Masters Green Jackets in his wardrobe back home

because if we were all the same it would be boring. "Some days I'm more nervous

than others and a lot of that depends oo how well you're playing and how confident you are. Wheo I'm playing well I feel as though I can hit any shot under any circumstance."

Some of Langer's stoicism can be attributed to the chromosomes. His distant family were wealthy farmers from the Czechoslavakiafringed regions of the Sudetenland an area quickly swallowed op by Nazi Germany's expansioo east-

Langer's father, Erwin, was conscripted and assigned as a courier feeding orws to the German lines. He was captured by the Russians in 1945 and did not think much of the

restorative qualities of his destina-tion when he learned it was a lovely little place called Siberia. Erwin jumped train one night and fled into the woods before resettling in An-

hausen, where Bernhard was born. He has since won 49 Tour events and his two majors have come in the Masters, amid the marbled balls (and marbled greens) of Augusta. For morbid fascination, watching Langer putt has often been like peering at the steaming wreckage of a motor-

way collision. His most celebrated putt was s sixfooter at Kiawah Island in the 1991 Ryder Cup. It missed, but there was no better man to miss it. "At first it was something that consumed me but, from a Christian point of view, there was only one perfect human be-

missed a putt. "It was hetter that I had to take that putt rather than any of the oth-

ers. I probably got over it better and faster than some might have done." These days, with several attacks of the yips and a full reading of the putting Kama Sum behind him. Langer is no longer penitent. "I really don't pooder on it at all," he said. "I gave it my best and I actually made a good putt there. It felt like a good

stroke, but in the end it was just a misread and the green was oot like a billiard table. I didn't miss on There are still a lot of options left

with the putting, you know. Nobody would have thought you could putt the way I did for seveo or eight years with my hand on the forearm. I might revert to what I did a few years ago or try something else they invent. The important thing is that it works. I might still experiment with different week to arrive now. Blow wind, blow. major left in me'

by day, but it doesn't mean that the yips won't come back again because I've had them four times already." If the broomhandle can sweep all

Q025 and 1345 T Brom (Deni... J-Cook (US), 2 Ames (Tird)

before it at Troon then Langer believes he will have an early celebratioo before his 40th birthday next month. "You always wonder if you've woo your last tournament, especially whoo you have a few weeks and months when you're not even close to winning," he said.
"I still hope to be in contention in

majors and I played fairly well at the Masters, finishing seventh when nobody was close to Tiger. With a hit better form I could have finished second. I think there is still a major left in me, it's just a question of playing

well that given week."
For those who appreciate a good guy among men who would not give you the cuttings from between their spikes there is a ferveot wish for that Langer: "I think there is still a

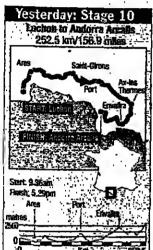


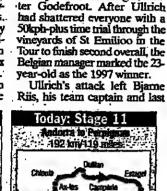
Ullrich produces a tour de force

ROBIN NICHOLL with the Tour de France

Jan Ullrich watched from the Tour de France podium vesterday as the vellow jersey, destined for his shoulders, arrived at the summit of the Arcalis mountain. Cedric Vasseur, the Frenchman who last week became the surprise wearer of the leader's colours, relinquished them like a champion on a daywhen no other rider could live with Ullrich.

Vasseur crossed the line seven minutes and 44 seconds after Ullrich's triumph 2,340 metres up in the Andorran Pyrenees, havmg twice fought his way back into a stage that lasted more than seveo and three-quarter hours. Chris Boardman spent nearly eight and a half hours in the saddle as he arrived with more than 80 who had suffered over six mouotains and 252 kilometres. With his neck injury from Monday's fall it was a ride







through hell for the British cy-clist which plunged him more 3.23 in his wake, but the Dane than one hour and 10 minutes behind the oew leader in the overall standings. He finished the day in pain, and exhausted.

Vasseur, Boardman's teammate, attacked his challengers on the final climb but was swallowed up as the main contenders opeoed up. Ullrich responded to the threat of the Frenchman Richard Virenque to storm home over the final 10 kilometres and finish one

mioute and eight seconds clear of Marco Pantani and Virenque. The German holds a lead of nearly three minutes over Virenque and could be on his way to confirming last year's predic-tion by his team manager, Wal-ter Godefroot. After Ullrich had shattered everyone with a 50kph-plus time trial through the vineyards of St Emilioo in the Tour to finish second overall, the Belgian manager marked the 23-Ullrich's attack left Bjarne

> SIICTICC 25 2 TIOTAL INTERIC WRS 121CL
> TOUR DE FRANCE 10th stage (252 los, Lachon to Arcalia; 1.1 Ulrich (Ser) Teteloco: Try
> 46mm 75ec; 2 M Partan (IQ Mecratorne Uno
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> +3:46; 6 F Estortin (St) Kelme; 9 A Olano (Spit)
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> Banesto; 10 A Elit (th Casino; 11 M Fincato (th
> Rostotic: 12 P Lino (Fr) Rig Mile; 13 R Corne (Spit)
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> Colids +4:15. Ottows: 48 L Jalobert (Fr)
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> 5 Partant +5:29; 6 Escartin +5:49; 7 Dufaux
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> Cassignande +7:20; 10 C Vesseur (Fr) GM
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> 5 Casagrande Tealern +1:0:31; 38; 4 Perstani 100;
> 68esc: 2 Teleforn +4:54; 3 Miscratorne Uno
> 68esc: 2 Teleforn BAT 122. Ring of the mountaint: 1 versus 100; 2 Brochert 160; 3 Ulrich 138; 4 Pentent 100; 2 Brochert 160; 3 Ulrich 138; 4 Pentent 100; 2 Marcatone Utx

was content. "Jan was extraor-

dinary," he said. "When he is in

such shape he is the best, but the

most important thing is for us to

win this Tour. It will be either of

us, and there are many stages to

come. Whatever, we are going to

champion four years ago, is the

first German to carry the

colours since Klaus-Peter

Thaler in 1978 and only the 10th

since the first success by Kurt

Stoepel in 1932. He is also the

same age as the Frenchmen

Jacques Anquetil, Laureot Fignon and Bernard Hinault

wheo they won their first Tour.

terday became a pilgrimage to pay homage at the memorial to

Fabio Casartelli, the Italian rid-

er who died after crashing on the

Col de Portet d'Aspet two years

ago. The riders stopped at the monument on the slopes of the

mountain to observe a minute's

silence as a floral tribute was laid.

The first 45 kilometres yes-

Ullrich, the world amateur

win the Tour together."



British sides braced for the bad news

Dave Hadfield previews the latest round of Super League's world championship

When the Salford coach, Andy Gregory, was asked what he had learned from his trip to Australia, he replied with his characteristic blend of honesty and irreverent wit: "Not to go back."

The resumption of the World Club Championship this weekend is a suitable subject for gallows humour. Salford were merely one of the victims last time around, and how they and other British clubs bounce back over the next couple of weeks will determine whether there is

anything to smile about.

Maurice Lindsay, whose offspring it is, must be obliged to believe that there will be. "What the critics forget is that there is still every chance of a British team reaching the final," the Su-per League chief executive said.

"If Bradford and Wigan finish top of their group, as I think they will, they will have home draws in the quarter-finals. Those will be massive matches in front of massive crowds and you wouldn't want to bet your house against them both winning.
"Teams like London and

Wigan, playing at home in the second stage, are both capable of springing surprises. And Bradford are still a fine football team, who will have learnt a lot from their first three matches."

There is no unanimity within the game, however, about the lessons that should be drawn. "Take Andy Farrell, He's devastated," Lindsay said. "He thinks he's let himself, his club

and his couotry down and he's determined to put it right. Other players - even some at the same club - are making excuses for themselves."

ter. They get paid more than us." more bad news. At least one club
Lindsay has a different, but arrived there to a welcome that related, alibi. The gap between made them feel at home. Warthe two countries exposed by the first round of WCC matches

does not, he believes, demon-

has gone backwards, but rather that Super League in Australia has leaped ahead in spectacular fashion. It is a comforting theory, but no one in Australia - even Super League's true believers - would seriously claim that their game is in the middle

of a new golden age.

It might, though, look that
way when the likes of the Canherra Raiders and the Brishane Broncos take the field this weekend. If crowds in Britain were impressed by Penrith, Auckland and Hunter, they can expect to be amazed by the two most exciting club sides in the world.

Although Wigan and London will have genuine hopes of surprising them, they will also be hoping that spectators will turn out in greater numbers than they have for the competition so far to see how good the latest visitors are.

"I hope that rugby followers in London wilt turn out in force," said their chairman, Barry Maranta, "Union people have got excited about John Bentley and Alan Tait on the Lions' tour, but they wouldn't stand out in a rughy league team.

"We've got players coming one like Lauric Daley, Bradley Clyde, Allan Langer and Steve Renouf who are a millinn miles ahead of anything that has ever been seen in rugby union. It would be a tragedy if crowds didn't turn out to see them."

Certainly, it would be disappointing if London and Wigan - one hesitates to extend the argument to Halifax on their form so far in the tournament - do not give the Dalcys and Langers a game on British soil. From the other side of the

found, there are players whose attitude is: "Of course they're better. They get raid more than the players whose attitude is they are the rington's training pitch in the sunny, beach-side suburb of Crnnulla was flooded by torstrate that the game in Britain rential rain. It could be an omen.

Fair play reprieve on the cards

Smith's double act boosts European ambitions

International Championships these riders will be eager to re-Team Trials, nn Senator Tees tain their places.

Players who behave on the puch totting up bookings. Previously, times having to appear before, iour, Hopefully, it will be easi-will be rewarded under a new penalty points by yellow cards. In TA disciplinary committee: er for the fans to understand, wheme announced by the Poot were allocated on a shiring scale. But the situation regarding Manchester United comball Association yesterday. Hom, with a maximum of four points, sendings off remains un-plained last season that their this senson, anyone who goes five for the schools misdefleanous? Charlet Thank will be for the players were more likely to be

the verge of suspension will be five yellow cards - last season fence. able to delay or even prevent a a player would have to be

Equestrianism

GENEVIEVE MURPHY

reports from Peterborough

Robert Smith took the top two

places in vesterday's Dacwoo

Grand Prix qualifier at the East

of England Show and could now

be on course to fulfil a long-

standing ambition by earning a

place on the British team for

next month's European Cham-

The scheme means players on . Players will be banned after just facing suspension.

Hanauer and was also second

on Orthos, who is owned by the

British team manager, Ronnie

ed, Michael Whitaker (on Vir-

tual Village Ashley) and Mark

Armstrong (on Primma) share

first place on 18pts, with Smith

on Tees Hanauer (15). Since the

selectors are committed to in-

incorporated the third of four all points in the British squad, anyone jumping it clear might

third on Orthos (17) and fourth

With three trials now decid-

Massarella.

Smith won this contest, which cluding the top three on over-

But there is some bad news for players, because the FA ban after eight bookings, with have launched a new method of players who are booked 11 own records with good behav-

tull games without receiving a The points system has been "tween one and three games suspended than those at many vellow or red card will have a ditched though - and all book depending on the offence - other clubs, because they played haveling struck from the records. ings will now be of equal value: and suspensions will still come in more games.

Steve Double, an FA han being imposed by staying booked at least six times, before spokesman, said: "This will sim- booking removed by playing plify and streamline the situation within the laws of the game."

Armstrong, fourth yester-day, feels his horse can cope

with such a challenge. Stanley and Jean Powell's nine-year-old

mare Primma has shown coo-

sistent form in the trials and at

four overseas shows, where she

completed each grand prix with

small side for a championship

trial. Michael Bullman, chair-

man of selectors, thought that

Yesterday's course was on the

no more than one error.

England's All Black test in World Cup Rugby Union

day's draw for the competition.

Two European qualifying feat by Australia in the 1991 places are available in Pool B, and England are expected to take one of the spots for the group matches to be played at fwickenham. The All Blacks are the seeded country in the fourstrong pool - one of five in the 20-team tournament - whose schedule was finalised in the draw in Dublin.

England have played New Zealand in the last two World Cups and lost on both occasions. In 1995, England were defeated 45-29 by the All Blacks in the semi-finals in Cape Town and were beaten 18-12 in the first group game of the 1991 World Cup at Twickenham.

The other groups see the seeded South Africans playing in Pool A at Murrayfield, Five Nations champions France in Pool C on home soil while host nation Wales in Pool D are set to kick off their challenge in front of their own supporters. tighthead prop.

In Pool E, Ireland are likely to meet Australia at Lansdowne Road, although neither team England look set to meet the All has made sure of a seeded ap-Blacks in the group stage of the 1999 World Cup after yester.

This would give the Irish th This would give the Irish the chance to avenge their 19-18 de-

> The qualifying rounds will be played in November 1998, with Pool 1 in England, Pool 2 in Scotland and Ireland hosting Pool 3.

quarter-finals at Lansdowne

DRAW FOR 1999 RUGBY WORLD CUP: DRAW FOR 1999 RUGBY WORLD CUPPool A (To be feeld in Scottand): South
Africa, Europe 3, Europe 4, Repéchâge
2, Pool B (To be held in England): New
Zestard, Europe 2, Europe 5, Repéchâge
1, Pool C (To be held in France): France,
Pacific 2, America 2, Africa 1, Pool O (To
be held in Wates): Wates, America 1, Paeffic 3, Asia 1, Pool E (To be held in Iratand): Pacific 1, Europe 1, America 3,
Europe 6.

M. Carvel dis Plessis: the Spering.

Carel du Plessis, the Springboks coach, has made four changes - all in the pack - for his team to take on the All Blacks in Saturday's opening Tri-Nations Championship Test in Johannesburg, Naka Drotske replaces the injured James Dalton at hooker, while Marius Hurter is a surprise inclusion ahead of Dawie Theron at

SMERO
MAROYA GRAND TOURNAMENT (Magoya, Japan) 10th day (of 15): Misugarto hvon 6, lost Al tx Yamarto (2-5): Korayu (6-4) tx Harryanant-mag (7-3); Franch (7-3) th (yolushusun (5-5)); Mishama (6-4) tx Rakio (5-5); Menoumi (5-5) tx Oojaro (3-7); Maroyana (6-4); Mishamani (5-5); Mishamani (6-7); Mishamani (5-5); Mishamani (6-6); Mishamani (5-5); Mishamani (6-6); Mishamani (6-5); Mishamani (6-6); Mishamani (6-7); Mi

Gregory fined for slur The Salford coach, Andy Gre- place in their recent league

gory, has been fined £1500 - matches against each nther. £1000 of it suspended - for call- Batley and Doncaster have ing the referee Robert Connolly "a big-head" and "a poser". writes Dave Hadfield.

Super League defeat by Leeds on 6 July, was said by a Rugby League hearing to have "caused hurt and injury to the game". Gregory, who admitted the charge, will not have to pay the major part of the fine if he stays out of trouble notil the end of July next year.

Salford's Western Samoan forward, Lokeni Savelio, has been takeo off the transfer list after having a change of heart and deciding that he wants to stay at the club.

Four lower division clubs -Hull KR and Swinton of the First Division plus Batley and Doncaster from the Second have heeo severely reprimanded over hrawls that took also been fined.

The Brisbane Broncos hooker. John Plath, will miss his Gregory's outburst, after the cluh's World Club Champi-Onship matches against Wigan and his old team, London, Plath has been found guilty of a spear tackle in Australia and suspended for two games.

The former Brisbane player. Butch Fatnowna, has joined London from Workington Town, for whom he has played for the last two seasons. The full-back or centre has yet to secure a new work permit and is not expected to come into contention for the WCC matches.

Oldham's new Australian, lan Russell, will make his cluh dehut in the Championship game against North Queensland Cowboys at Boundary Park on

Target Target

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K Hornes (Baing, Southal and Maddlesen) 27, 9, 1500ne; Hornes, J Perey (Bresto) 23, 0, 5,000ne; P Radicife (Bacitod and Co) 23, 10, Marnthote; Soutsanth (Edmburg) Woolen Min) 38, 1; C Hunter-Rosen (Hornesh) 33, 2; A Mort (Newport) 36, 0, 100m hardhare J Mahagesen (Justpool Harters) 22, 1; A Thorp (Wagan) 24, 5, 400m harders) 22, 1; A Thorp (Wagan) 24, 5, 400m harders) D Marn (Bromkey Leden) 29, 38, Long Jamps J Wise (Covernty Godne) 26, 5, Thigh Jamps D Marn (Bromkey Leden) 25, 15; M Griffin (Weddon, South and Diomy 25, 25, 58abt J Osiaka (Coydon Marnesto 39, 78, Discouse S Drew (Survivo) and Dartel (23, 1), Seedier S Sandreno 41, 60; S Holmyd (Essex Ladies) 24, 6, Magriathione; D Levels (Bactricki) 24, 25, Asadolon shing (Front); Curboshiey, Curnell, M Pierre (Coydon), M Thornas (Bactricki), L Harderson (Berchield), M Thornas (Bactricki), L Harderson (Berchield), Salperiances, Reset (Bach)

Badminton China has pulled out of the Indonesian Open tournament accusing the host nafrom of failing to issue team visas on time.

Salmmance most (Selemance, Sp. Mon); Nor's 100m: 1 L Christo (GB) 10.12sec. High Jamps J Salmmay (Outet 2-34m.

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 16 Detroit 4: Beltrange 9 Crosto 5: Cleveland 3 New York Yankees 2 (10 lanings): Namesso 15 Chicago White Sox 3:
Arahem 5 Pesas 5; Santtle 6 Oelland 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Floride 5 Montreal 4 (12 mings): Chicarroit 4 Si Louis 2: Problemg 5 New York Mers 4: Admirts 10 Philipdelphia 6: Houston 9 Cricago Cubs 7 (15 Innings): Los Argeits
14 Colorado 12 (10 Innings): San Diego 5 San
Francisco 3.

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Find up now on the internet: http://www.teamtalic.com

The Premier League club Manchester Glants have signed the former Birm-Ingham Bullets forward, Emiko Etete, from the German club Augsburg.

Cricket

Yorkshire have released Alex Wharf, the 22-year-old all-rounder, at his own re-quest. Wharf had made only seven first-class appearances following his debut in 1994.

in 1994.

Jason Lawry, Sussex's 26-year-old left-arm swing bowler who has not played this season following an operation on a stress fracture in his back, is hoping to get the all-clear to resume his ca-reer on Friday. Surrey's Ben Holloeke has been named

Surrey's Ben Holloeke has been nemed in the England Under-19 squad for this surromer's senes against Zimbebwe. ENGLAND U-19 SQUAD fore-day series v Zimbebwe, Augustia A Fentalf Lamb, coot, 0 State Mittotic, 5 Peters (Escot, D Sales Northesta), 3 Hollosics (Surrey), D Neets (Motido, 2 Morris (Yorts, 8 Betty (Yorts, A Tater (Surry), P Fental (Nott), D Custar (Bern), C Reed (Clours, wid), R Statebottom (Yorts), ANN RISK TROPHY (one day): Briette Gouce-terting 292 for 7 (D R Hewen 105), Wornes terting 137 M P Sneest 4-371, Stoncesterchire won by 155 rates.

BOYES STORES CHALLENGE (one day): Scen-

won by 156 fulls.

BOYES STORES CHALLENSE (one day: Seer-borough; Yorkshin 300 for 7 (50 overs; A McCash 114. G M Harriston 60, T 8 M de Leede 4-631; Netherlands 218 for 3 (50 overs; K J van Nootwyk 82). Yorkshire won by 82 rans.

Equestrianism

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of pounds bet at William Hill on Seve Ballesteros winning the Open at Troon, which starts tomorrow. The Spaniard's odds to win the event are 200-1.

where they can also earn points through good scores in the Na-

"Under the scheme the players

have the option of having a

be in for a great shock if they

thought the actual champi-

onships would be no more de-manding. But with faults well

distributed around the course,

Smith felt that Alan Oliver had

Armstrong will be contesting

the fourth trial, to be held at the

New Forest and Hampshire

Show on 31 July. Smith and

Michael Whitaker will then be

jumping at Gijon in Spain,

designed a clever track.

SPORTING DIGEST Seretor Tees Hansuar (R Smrth) dear, 50.55asc; 2 Sarator Critics (R Smath clear, 52.25; 3 Sarat's Occar (T Spoddale) clear, 55.27; Saradings on team triale: 1... Vistual Villaga Ashley (M Yifman-er) and Prima (M Armstonig) 18yes; 3 Senacor Orthos (R Smith) 17.

heland's John Twomey was beaten 15-3 by Sandro Cuomo, of Italy, in the first round of the men's epée competition at the World Championships in Cape Football

Bristol City's out-of-contract strikes Kevin Nugerit has agreed a two-year deal with Cardiff. The fee will be determined by a tribunal. The Watford striver Kevin Philips yes-terday agned for Sunderland, who were relegated last season, in a deal that may be worth more than £500,000.

Ray Houghton, the Republic of Ireland midfielder, has joined First Division Reading as player-coach. Middlesbrough have sold all 26,500 season tickets available at the Riverside Sta-dium despite their relegation to the First

John Aldridge, manager of Transnere, is set to sign Ray Wallace from Stoke City for £200,000 today. Valencia said yesterday that Romaño must return from Brazi and play for them next season despite his reluctance to do so. The Spanish club has lodged doc-

urnerns with the Spenish football fed-eration which state that after 22 July Romario cannot play for any other chair Montaver LATE REBULTE: Principles S. Petrol's Athete 1 Huddenfeet O: Wasarbor 1 De-ingsor 3; Duwen 0 Fulfam 1; Broy Windersos D Sevition 2. LFA President's Cap Passit Botten-am 1 Shelbourte O. Major Langue Scoren New York-New Jersey MetroStats 4 Colondo Repris 1.

Las Cusworth has signed a five-year con-tract as director of rugby with the Courage League Division Four champi-Ortel have signed two linsh internationals; the Garryowen No 8, Ben Cronin, and centre Shen Waish, a 27-year-old instand A player from Cork Constitution.

Mike Golding in Group 4, was on course to win overall the BT Challenge last night as well as the finel leg from Boston to Southampton. Golding has won five of the so legs around the world and was comfortably ahead of the man who was better the south and and the confortably ahead of the man who was better the south and the both second into the finish and second overall, Simon Walker, in Toshiba.

Charlie Ermoleriko, of the United States, has agreed to join the Elite League club King's Lynn. The 28-year-old Californian makes his debut for his new club tonight. against Wolverhampton, the team who

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football ENTERONAL TOURNAMENT: 3/4th place clay-off (6.0); Finel (8.15) (at Lansdowne Road). Rosel).
FREENDLY MATCHES: Crawe v Bolton Evertron v Rangers Eveter v QPR (7.30): Gretns v
Cartele (7.30): Kettering v Peseborough
(7.30): Krigstorsan v Barnet (7.30): Newcastle
Town v Port Vale (7.30): Perzance v Laicester (7.15): Suston Ltd v Fulham (7.30): Yeovid
v Barnetey; York v Middlesbrough (7.30).

Cricket

BRIANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (test day of four, 11.0): Chesterbare
Goucestershire v Dertystine; Carterbare
Kart v Lepesanshire; Old Trafford: Lencashre v Sussex; Nurthermoter: Northermotorshire v Essex; Nurthermoter: Northermotorshire v Essex; Nurthermoter: Northermotorshire v Essex; Northermoter: Northermotorshire v Essex; States of the Montans.

TETLEY'S CHALLENGE SERVES (first day of three, 11.0): Cardiff Glerongon v AustralaTOUR PAATCH (first day of three, 11.0): Worcester: Worcesters haf v Poisson A.

SECOND XI CHANDPONSHIP (First day of three, 11.0): South Shields: Durham v Licestership; Chelmsfort: Esset v Londaning Southersport: Herryship w Yorkhing Legestershire; Chelmsford: Esset v Lin-cestre: Southerstore Herryshire v Yorkshire; Southerste CC: Middleser v Goussershire; Wellinghorough School: Northamptorshire v Nottinghamshire; Hove: Susset v Glemor-gar: Hatesowen: Worcestershire v Der-byshire.

Rugby League TOUR MATCH: Ontario y Wates (et Harritton,

BLITE LEAGUE: King's Lynn v Wokerhamp-tin 17.457; Poole v Eastbrume (7.30). PREMIER LEAGUE: Long Eaton v Hall (7.45). Other sports TEXASS: Men's Challenger tournament (Mon-chester).

Langrowa B-J 6-3; R Simpson (Can) bt R Boogert (Neth) 7-5 6-1; C Crates (Rom) bt A Gers 6-2 0-1 technic; M Dazo-Oliva Way) bt P Suenat (Vay) 6-2 6-2; L Courtes (Bel) bt J Kanderr (Ger) 6-2 7-6; K Nassudous bt G Leon-Greca (Sp) 6-4 6-3.

O-1 (detaute); M Date-Obse perp or in survey org. 6-2 6-2; L Chourtos: Bleef bit J Randers (Berl 6-4) - 4-6. A MERNEDES CIDE (Bleef bit J Randers (Berl 6-4) - 4-6. A MERNEDES CIDE (Bleef bit J Randers (Berl 6-4) - 4-6. A MERNEDES CIDE (Bleef bit J Randers (Berl 1-4) - 4-6. A Mernedes (Berl 1-4) - 4-6. A M

BEVERLEY

2.00: 1. HIGH SPIRITS (I E Durcan) 6-1:
2. Sharp Bood 9-1; 3. Glasy Princians 9-2; fev. 14 ren. 9-2; fev. 50: 14 ren. 9-2; fev. 50: 14 ren. 9-2; fev. 50: 150: 22.80.
13:30, 12: 30. DF; 66: 40.00. CSP: 553.93. Incast: £256.37. Inic: £54.90.
2.30: 1. CAUTDON (I FORM) 10: 11 fev. 2.
8. (Mrs. J Ramatien, Threid, Totas: £2.10; £1.30.
£2.30. DF: £3.80. CSF: £56.30.
3.00: 1. CEE.N-R (IS Doyle) 9-1; 2. Hawaitt 5-2 fax; 3. Three For A Pound 5-1.6 ran. 17;
17. (M. Johnston, Middleram), Totas: £13.20; £3.70; £1.40, £1.80. DF: £256.20. CSF: £30.53. 1. FASHBON VICTIM (A Curtame) 7-1:
2. Gildersleve 7-1; 3. Miles Ettainston 12-1.
11 ran. 2-1 fax Pasty Culsyth (5th). No. 27; (Castwell, Warmagon). Totas: £8.20; £2.10.
£2.50. 13.80. DF: £35.10. CSF: £48.01. This: £32.80 (part won) BEVERLEY

12.50, C3.80. DF: £35.10. CSF: £49.01. Yelo: £328.90 (part wor.)
4.00: 1. AMAN SPRET (T Wilsong) 4-1 ft tay; 2. Highfield Rizz 10-1: 3. Betablanco 9-1.11 ran. 4-1 ft for Hasta Le Yeste (Sch.), M., 4. () Eyre. Thirsto. Tother: £4.00; £1.60, £3.60, £1.80. DF: £26.40. CSF: £40.79. Yeste: £31.45.8 Tree £50.60.
4.30: 1. YOUNG BEN (6 Partiell 33-1: 2. Recryylockes £5: 1. 3. Stellon Kins 6-1: 4. Superfiftis 25-1: 20 ran. 5-2 tay Ned's Borgon at (Sch.), Mr. 17, 27, U Warganght, Matton). Total: £53.70; £1.08.0; £4.40, £1.50, £10.50. DF: £450.80, CSF: £491.A1. Tricast: £3.314.17. Tree £1.594.20 (part won). cast. £228.75. 4.15-1. DOUBLE EIGHT (D Holland) 5-2; 2. Cheek To Cheek 5-1; 3. Looking-toracathow 6-4 iss. 5 res. 24., 14. (B Hils.

NAME/CHESTER CHALLES/GER (Dicksbury) (call in unless stated) Men's singles, first musel; I Dergado et C Beecher 7-6-6-3: T Spunis N N Weat 4-6-7-6-6-4: C Haggard (SA) tat A Parmar 6-3-6-2: D Burntea (Se) is in Goula 7-5-6-1: M Draper/Aus is it S Dorne: (N2) 7-6-6-4:) Anosièr (Man bet V Shrwani 1834 4-6-4-6-3: D Sossioni bit N Beth (1831 6-3-3-5-7-6).

DUN BEY ISI) 5-3 3-6 7-9.

LTA WOMEN'S SATELLITE EVENT (Frinten)
Stagles, Siet round: Wort (GB) Dr. C Smith (GB)
6-0 7-5; H Crock (GB) Br. V Dawes (GB) 7-6-6-2;
TOpsiler Rein Dr. GG Staten (Tur) 6-3-6-1; V Rendoli
(Aug.) br. J Dawson (GB) 5-3-6-0; C Grunos (Gr)
fr. C Wasson (Aus.) 6-2-6-7 7-5; L Gobox (Gr) br. A Woodhouse (GB) 6-1 7-6; L Gobox (Gr) br. A Woodhouse (GB) 6-1 7-6; L Gobox (GR) br. A Woodhouse (GB) 6-2; A Legis (GB) br. A Woodhouse (GB) 6-3-6-2; A Begod (GB) 12-6-6-3; A Begod (GB) 12-6-6-3; A Begod (GB) 12-6-6-3; A Begod (GB) 13-6-6-4; A Begod (GB) 13-6-4; A Beg

Tennis
Jana Novotra, the top seed, yesterday
pulled out of the Czech Open complaining of chest muscle pains.
czech oren women's clay count for the
MAENI (Pragba) Singles first reset (c: Rep
unless states): D Chachos to M Melconicus
5 7 6-6 2 1: N Louseabeteria (Gen Ib & Niconicus
6-3 6-4 2 Declarma-Saler) of E Marintone 6-3
6-4; R Declarma-Saler) of E Marintone 6-4
6-5-4; R Desprint from to M Scotowela (Pol 6-3
44 6-4; Refrance is R Peblance 6-3
5-4 6-4; Refrance is R Peblance 6-3
5-4 6-4; Refrance is R Peblance
6-3
5-2 I Mension Varii to N Studenthone (South 6-0
6-2: J Nigar (Sk) to D Sendancefathone (South
6-3 6-2; B Schutz-McCarriy (Neth) of R Zhooleo
sa (Shook) 6-2 6-1; W Mentinek (Ger) bt P RACING RESULTS

5.00: 1. LETS BE FAIR (F Johnson) events tay; 2. Cumbrian Cadet 100-30; 3. Half A Knicker 12-1. 10 nan. 9, 1½, U Hanson, Wetherby), Toke: £2.20; £1.10, £1.70, £2.10. DF: £3.90, CSF: £4.03, Trat: £11.20. Jackpot: Not won (pool of £5,349.42 camed forward to Sandown today).

Placapot: £599.80, Osadoot: £614.10. BRIGHTON

BRIGHTON

2.15:1. DISTINCT VINTAGE (R Hughes) 9-4; 2. Mystery Sacest 5-1; 3. Sky Mountain 33-1. 6 ran. 2-1 fan Linde Fizz (5th). 8, nk. (R Harmon, East Everleigh, Totat. 12.50; 6.1.10. 52.40. 05: 59.20. 05: 51.50. 5.

2.45: 1. BETTRON (Denc O'Neal) 100-30; 2. Prhates Seas 15-8 fay; 3. Persiam Fortame 13-2. 9 ran. Hd. 4. (R Harmon, East Everleigh, Totat 16.80; 12.50. 05: 11.10. 61.90. DF: 51.71.0. 05: 59.54. The £13.30. After a steward: Inquisy the piscings, remained unableted. 3.15: 1. RADAR O'REALLY (G Dufheld) 1-2 fax; 2. Sifes 7-1. 2 ran. 12. (R Wilsoms, Newmanted). Totat: £1.50. OF: £2.40. 05F: £3.67. NR: Miscomduct, Only two finished. 3.45: 1. SOOTY TERN (R Firendin) 9-2: 2. Victory Team 5-1; 3. Chambanas Choice 12-1. 8 ran. 11-4 few Night Wink (8th). 1, 7, U Bradley, Chepstow). Totat: £4.40; £1.70. 52.00. £1.50. OF: £1.79. 0. CSF: £224.49. Incost: £228.75.

Lamboum). Total: £2.A0; £1.80, £2.00. OF: £6.30, CSF: £13.54. NR: Snow Camacol. 4.45; 1. BARBASON (Cardy Monts) 4-1 h tay; 2. Stend Tail 9-1; 2. Octavida Hill 10-1. 15 mm. 4-1; i lev Mr Cube, ½. shr-hd. (61 Moore, Beginon). Total: £4.90; £1.80, £3.70, £3.60, DF: £25.80. CSF: £39.08, Truest: £330.32, Tro: £273.50. After 3 strengts' inquity the planings remained unalized. Planes et £33.35.



yellow jersey, page 23

Black angered by selectors' 'lack of decency'

MIKE ROWBOTTOM

Athletics Correspondent

Britain's selectors yesterday defended their decision to offer the final individual 400 metres place at next month's World Champinuships to Jamie Baulch rather than the British team captain, Roger Black.

Malcolm Arnuld, British athletics' performance director, said the decision to include Baulch instead of the 31-year-old Olympic silver medallist – who has been suffering from a receiving a personal call.
"I might have gnne to Hech-tel and run 45.5sec, in which old Olympic silver medallist -

grieved that he had not been given a chance to show his fitness by running in Belgium on Saturday, three days before the selection deadline. The man who was nominated earlier this year to succeed Linford year, which I did 12 times last Christie as Britain's team captain was also angry about hav-ing to learn of the decision through the press, rather than

unanimous, and hased on form.

Black, however, was ag
"I might have run 44.6 and felt great. But it doesn't matter now. I haven't been given an opportunity because they have closed the door completely.

Tamie has run OK, but he

hasn't broken 45 seconds this

year. I don't think I have to prove myself as an athlete and they have not really listened to the medical situation I have had." Black, who will now go to Athens as captain and a member of the relay team, has canBaulch finished third in 45.02 behind the two automatic qualifiers, Iwan Thomas and Mark Richardson, in 45.02sec.

"The thing that really upset me is that no one contacted me to tell me about this," Black added. "No one had the decency or the courtesy just to phone me and tell me 'Sorry Roger, we have made the decision, you're not going to be happy with it, but we just want you to know how we feel about it'.

concentrate on training. He paid the price for not being at the trials, where the 23-year-old no way to treat people and if it's going to happen to myself as Olympic silver medallist and team captain who has been around for 12 years, then it can happen to anyone.

i am very angry - it is just bad man management. It is as if they're saying 'Sorry Roger, we don't respect your illness'." Arnold - who briefly floated the idea that Black could be nffered a wild card for Athens before an International Ama-teur Athletic Federation nfficial ruled it out - denied that

but it does not lessen nur regard for Roger Black. He is a great athlete.

"If we did not pick Jamie Baulch, what message are wesending out to young athletes who are on the verge of a brilliant career?"

Baulch, who won the world indoor championship silver medal this year and earned a silver with the Olympic relay team, is a highly talented run-ner who will undoubtedly acquit himself well in Athens. But Black, who would not run in

should have been given a chance. And the failure to inform him of the decision was particularly shoddy given the amount of time he had dedicated in the last two years to the formation of the British Athletes' Association, the body

formed to foster good relations between individual athletes, sponsors and the federation. Baulch was naturally delighted at the news. "I couldn't believe it when I got the letter in the post this morning," he

this was the case. "If we upset people, we are terribly sorry.

Athens unless he know he could bours. Every time I answered the people, we are terribly sorry. But this takes all the pressure but then that's athletics."

The team reflects the suc cessful weekend enjoyed by Britain's younger generation a the European Under-23 Cham pionships. Two of the gold medallists get individual places

Julian Golding in the 200ml

and Allison Curbishley at 40my as does the silver medallist in the high hurdles, Diane Allahgreen

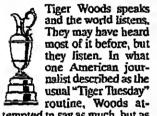
Great Britain team for

THE 126TH OPEN: With all eyes and ears on him, the American is giving little away as he prepares for tomorrow's opening round

Talk is cheap on Tiger Tuesday

ANDY FARRELL

reports from Royal Troon



routine, Woods attempted to say as much, but as little, as he could. Among the brief soundbites was what is rapidly becoming his catchphrase. "My expectation is to win every murnament," the Masters champion said. "That's and take pictures."

my goal, to win every tnurna-

ment. It's the philosophy of my programmed performance. In hastening to downplay a possihle rivalry with the only other Majnr winner under 30, Ernie Els. Wood demnlished his earlier thesis. "It is so hard for two or three players to be at the top in every tournament they play

tngether." he said. Where Woods did npen up, perhaps as he is away from home, was on the death threats and hate mail he has received. They have been numerous but that is nothing unusual," he said. When you are playing a sport in which you are not the majnrity but the minority, of course there is going to be some ani-mosity. That's the way it goes. It was like that for Arthur Ashe and Jackie Robinson, Until we un-

ACROSS

6 Bishop at spa resort has

many opening veins (6) 10 Spring-lock? (7)

11 Ether may product this

I2 Appealing, like royalty 2

13 Man from Indiana, for 3

example, met new rid-

ers in a bad way (12)

Julius Caesar in three

16 A performance of

spring (6)

short acts (4,4,4)

19 Doctor incarcerated in

redness of skin (8)

Instrument used by

bread rolls (4)

Densely-packed spurge

opening up in spinney

derstand and respect everyone for the kind of person they are, not by looking at their pigmentation, that's going to be there."
His worst moment to date at

tournament came at the Phoenix Open in January. "The security completely broke down and I was absolutely mobbed," he said. Woods got knocked down and cut under the eye by a pen someone was halding out for an autograph. The response in the 21-year-old phenomenon has been slightly less hectic at Troon. "I have noticed people here have been very respectful. They understand you are here to play and not sign autographs

Although he cannot match Young Tom Morris, who was 17 when he won in 1867, Woods It was the unqualified nature could become the youngest of the statement that belied the winner this century of the championship. "This is prohably the higgest tournament to win. You get the best players in the world here, and you play nn traditional courses. That's what it's all

> For the challenge of playing in the wind. Woods spent last week altering his swing to make it shallower. "My swing plane is better and my ball flight has come down a little," be said. "I should be OK." As on Monday, Woods set off for a practice round at lunchtime, which suits his 1.05pm tee-off tomorrow, when he will play with Bernhard Langer and Steve Elkington.

But for the past two days, the wind has been such that the front nine has been into it. rather than downwind, which is

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

20 One who has spread in 6

Brush with no head?

Now one is in the soup!

means shelling out (8)
DOWN

needs help on track (8) Bloke with little time to

Mexico (8)

Polish craft (7)

24 Bounty in calm seas?

25 Betting before final

Bannister, we hear,

hanker after (5)

His computer work

tions shrink (7.7)

might make organisa-

Room for spectators in

Towcester racecourse



Driving ambition: Under the attentive gaze of spectators, Tiger Woods practices his attered swing at Royal Troon yesterday

the prevailing situation. The not going to because it makes no sense." The game plan, unlike at Augusta or indeed in front of the media, will have to be adaptable this week. When be found the rough nn the

CHIPERDAN COLUMN R N A A O O I ELECTRIC AGENCI A A O I A A O I ELECTRIC AGENCI BUOLING MEADUOU

TINDONES INCOMESSOR DE LA COMESSOR D

Tchaikovsky's sixth vari-

able, perhaps? Try an-

Apparent that hospital

other Russian! (9)

case loses heart (6)

arranged brings divi-

14 Swing music groups on

15 Constellation to north

these frequencies? (9)

that has a tail barmful

to people picking it up

18 Just left? Appalling! (6)

21 Had an aversion to that

bit of a bash at Edgbas-

A run comedienne

dends (8,6)

17 Rascals in travels

abroad (7)

ton (5)

forecast is for it to switch tomorrow. If it does, Woods may go for the greens at the first three holes with his driver and capitalise on his ennrmous length. "I might try," he said. "But if the wind is against, I am right of the first, a spectator growled: "You'll nae turn this place into a pitch and putt."
In a playful moment at the

sixth, Woods tested the wind by hitting a wedge shot as high as he could. The ball landed at his feet. Woods played at St Andrews two years agn, and at Royal Lytham, where his 66 in the second round was his lowest score as an amateur in a pro tournament. Troon is proving a new experience, however.

"At the two other courses, I was able to see the golf course in front of me," he said. "Here there are a conple of blind shnts. Mark O'Meara and Cookie [John Cook] played here last time, but they didn't really remember where to go.

This is a course on which you have to know your lines and trust them.'

The course, according to Greg Norman, is the "healthiest" for an Open the Australian has seen. "The greens and the fairways are in perfect shape, he said. Having already played the course twice while he has been in Scotland, Norman has spent the last two days fishing in the Highlands with his children. His countryman, Ian Baker-Finch, will make a decisinn this morning after a final prac-

The 1991 champion, who has

since gone into a inng-term

slump - at one point he went 16 months without making a cut has been taking anti-inflamma-tories for a shoulder injury. Scotland's Dean Robertson is standing by as the first alternate.

Norman said: "Everybody who plays golf hates to see Ian going through this slump, and it is the same with Seve [Ballesteros]. But he wants to get out ni it. He's got to climb that mountain all over again and he has the support of every play-

plete his third transfer of the

signing Leeds midfielder Mark

Milan have received two of-

gio, Adriano Galliani, the vice-

president of Milan, said

yesterday. Galliani did not name the

clubs and said the offers had

neither been accepted nor re-

ected. He added Milan had also

received an offer from Serie A

side Bologna for Baggio, who

has said he will leave Milan be-

Derby County had made an

offer for Baggio earlier this

month, but negotiations be-

tween the two sides failed to

Sony are to pay £1m for a

three-year advertising deal with

the Premier League. It will

mean Sony Playstation logos at

every club ground and on show

at all matches played in the FA

produce an agreement.

fore the start of next season.

Monty's motto, Order of play, page 23

Nicklaus keeps his run going

Despite speculation this year that 1997 would end Jack Nicklaus's run of playing consecutive majnr championships, the Golden Bearflewinto Prestwick

Airport late on Monday evening, writes Andy Farrell. Nicklaus, 57, yesterday

played a practice round on the course where he made his Open debut in 1962, shooting 80 in the first round and finishing 34th. The three-times winner will be playing in his 36th Open, his 143rd consecutive major as a professional and his 151st in all.

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Leeds leave five behind in preparation for sale his knee proved inconclusive. Chris Waddle is set to com-Additional nights £30

Football CATHERINE RILEY

When Leeds departed for a pre-

season tour of Sweden yester day, they left behind five first-team players in preparation for an Elland Road clear-out. Ian Rush, Thmas Brolin, Carlton Palmer, Tony Dorigo and Brian Deane were all missing from the 20-man squad, while Tony Yeboah has not returned after the summer hreak.

"There is no point in these players going to Sweden if there is any chance that they could be leaving to join other clubs," Genrge Graham, the Leeds manager, said. "If there is any transfer activity while we are away, they will be around to sort nut their future. I want people who are fully committed to Leeds United, not players whn will be here in the short term."

signing a four-year deal at White Hart Lane to end an unhappy week as Burnley manager by few months with Newcastle. "Tottenham was always my first choice," Ginnla said. "They're one of the biggest Ford for around £250,000. fers from English clubs for the Italy midfielder Roberto Bag-

David Ginola completed his

£2m move to Spurs yesterday.

clubs in England and I've always known that they have a great name in world football. The big challenge for the club and for me this season is to get into the European Cup and a good sea-son for me will be in help them into Europe Ginola is set to link up with

his new team-mates today in

Norway, where they are currently on a pre-season tour. Danny Murpby has finally completed his delayed move

to Liverpon! fram Crewe. The 20-year-old midfielder had been due to sign last week, hut the transfer was out on hold after X-rays nn

Celtic foreign problem

Celtic are preparing to welcome another foreign arrival to Parkbead as their general manager. Jock Brown, attempts in patch up problems with two of his Continental players. Italian striker Paolo Di Canio

says he wants to leave the club

next week only 24 hours after the

new coach, Wim Jansen, de-

illness is causing concern.

former Milan player's attitude. Brown, the man charged with keeping Celtic's foreign imports happy, may now fly to Portugal to meet up with striker Jorge Cadete, whose absence through

He also hopes to sign the Swedish striker Henrik Larsson from Feyenoord today, despite clared he was impressed with the a delay in a £2.5m deal.

Carling Premiership. The deal is in addition to Sony's recent £10m sponsorship of the Champions' League over the next three years. Alvin Martin, the former

West Ham and England defender, has been named as the new manager of Second Division Southend

More football, page 23

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